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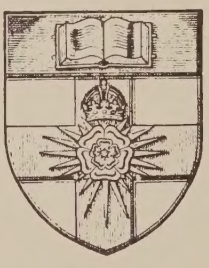

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ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS:

FIFTY VOLUMES.

—(9.)—

COLONIES AND BRITISH POSSESSIONS;

COLONIAL REPORTS.

SESSION 1.—5 *February* 1895——6 *July* 1895.
SESSION 2.—12 *August* 1895——5 *September* 1895.

VOL. LXIX.

1895.

ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS:

1895.

FIFTY VOLUMES:—CONTENTS OF THE NINTH VOLUME.

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No. 139.

BAHAMAS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1894.

(For Report for 1893, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 110.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
15 *August* 1895.

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1895.

[C.—7847.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

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3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.

No. 139.

BAHAMAS.

(For Report for 1893, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 110.)

Acting-Governor MELVILLE to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House, Nassau,
May 27, 1895.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1894, together with the report thereon by Mr. Burnside, the Acting Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.
GEO. MELVILLE,
Administrator.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK for the year 1894.

The Blue Book of the Colony is made up for the year ending the 31st of December, while the financial year ends on the 31st of March.

It would be more desirable if there were no such difference, and it is therefore proposed to compile the next Blue Book to the 31st March, 1896.

Taxes, Duties, and other Sources of Revenue.

The only changes since last year to be recorded under this head are the placing on the free list of mills and parts of mills, stills, and boilers, and, under certain conditions, articles imported for the purpose of being used in furnishing and fitting up a hotel within these islands.

BAHAMAS. 1894.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue for 1894 fell short of the estimate by over 10,000*l.*

Compared with 1893 the return shows an increase of 2,872*l.*, but, when the sum of 10,032*l.*, realized on debentures issued during the year is taken from the receipts, it will be seen that there has been a decrease of 7,180*l.* From this amount, however, there should be deducted the sum of 1,538*l.*, being assets of the late Public Bank, which in 1893 were transferred to the credit of the General Revenue, hence the actual decrease in the revenue proper might he put at 5,642*l.*

The principal items of revenue which show a marked decrease are:—

Decrease.	Cause.
(1.) Customs, 4,417*l.* - -	General falling off in imports, more especially in bread stuffs, owing to exceptionally large home crops; the imports of the two previous years being more than normal in consequence of a severe drought; also to the steady decline in the prime cost of almost all articles of consumption on which an *ad valorem* duty is paid.
(2.) Liquor Licenses, 615*l.* - -	These licenses are sold at public auction. Such a decrease in the amount realized in 1894 would point to a combination among the purchasers.
3.) Post Office Revenue, 617*l.* -	In 1893 large sales of land were effected and stamp duties paid to the amount of 600*l.* odd, postage stamps being used, as there is no Inland Revenue Stamp.

The Expenditure was 47,645*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.* and as compared with that of 1893 is 265*l.* 13*s.* 8*d.* less.

The only extraordinary expenditure to be noted is 1,294*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.* for Hurricane Relief, the remaining being the fixed and ordinary miscellaneous expenditure.

Assets and Liabilities.

Excluding the loans on account of the late Public Bank and the cable the liabilities at the close of the year amounted to 59,080*l.* 4*s.* 3*d.*, and the assets to 12,173*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.*

Public Debt.

The year ended with a debt of 119,626*l.* At the close of 1893 it had been reduced to 110,226*l.* 0*s.* 2*d.* but, during 1894 a further loan of 10,000*l.* was raised. The sum of 500*l.* was paid off on account of the loan of 1885.

Local Boards.

In New Providence there are seven, viz.:—

(1.) The Board of Public Works, consisting of five members who are appointed by the Governor, three from either of the Executive or Legislative Councils, and two from the House of Assembly. The Colonial Secretary is usually chairman. The Board is vested with the supervision and control of all public works in the Island, and with the expenditure of all moneys which may from time to time be granted for any public work the control or expenditure of which may not be otherwise provided for by law. It has also the control of the Royal Victoria Hotel.

The receipts for the years amounted to 4,494*l.* 15*s.* 10*d.* and the expenditure to 4,378*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.*

(2.) The Commissioners of the New Providence Asylum, consisting of three persons who are appointed annually by the Governor, have the general management of the Institution and act as a central board for the administration of all matters relating to the support of the aged and infirm poor on the several out-islands and districts of the Government.

The receipts for the year amounted to 3,171*l.* 6*s.* 2*d.* and the expenditure to 3,233*l.* 9*s.* 0*d.*

(3.) The Board of Education, consisting of twelve members, exclusive of the Governor, who is President. The members are annually appointed by the Governor, only eight of whom can be members of the Legislature. This Board is vested with the general management and direction of Public Education throughout the Colony.

Its receipts for the year amounted to 3,775*l.* and its expenditure to 4,377*l.* 18*s.* 11*d.* The excess of expenditure was provided for by a balance from the previous year.

(4.) The visiting committee of the Nassau Prison, consisting of three members appointed annually by the Governor, the stipendiary and circuit magistrate for the time being acting in New Providence being chairman, has the management of the prisons throughout the Colony. There is no local Act governing this department. The receipts amounted to 1,463*l.* and the expenditure to 1,421*l.* 5*s.* 7*d.*

(5.) The Commissioners of Pilotage, consisting of seven members appointed annually by the Governor, have the control of pilots, harbour-master, and of all masters of vessels or seamen and

other persons employed or making use of the several harbours and anchorages in and about the Island of New Providence. The receipts amounted to 563*l.* 4*s.* 11*d.* and the expenditure to 547*l.* 6*s.* 10*d.*, the receipts and expenditure being principally on account of dredging operations.

(6.) The Board of Health appointed by the Governor and composed of the Medical Inspector and the Inspector of Police as *ex officio* and three other members.

This Board advises the Government in all matters concerning the health of the Colony.

(7.) Trustees of the "Nassau Public Library, Reading Room, and Museum," consisting of seven persons, four of whom are appointed by the Governor and three elected by the subscribers. They are vested with the general management of the Institution. The receipts amounted to 257*l.* 5*s.* 1*d.*, and the expenditure to 169*l.* 11*s.* 1*d.*

Other Boards.—Besides the Boards in New Providence there are 24 local boards of works on the out-islands of the Colony, which have almost similar powers as the Board of Works in New Providence and are appointed by the Governor. They have sums annually granted to them for the up-keep of public works in their respective districts.

For the year under review, grants in sums ranging from 10*l.* 10*s.* to 262*l.* amounted in the aggregate to 1,540*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.*

On these Islands there are also local boards of health and pilotage, and at Harbour Island, Inagua, and Green Turtle Cay, Abaco, where there are libraries, there are also trustees of such libraries, the law under which they exist defining who they shall be.

Public Works.

The grants for public works were for the up-keep of roads, drains, abutments, light stations, and public buildings. There is nothing extraordinary to deal with. The Legislature's grants for the year amounted to 4,420*l.*

Legislation.

The 13 Acts passed by the Legislature during the year are mainly in amendment of existing Acts. There are none requiring special mention.

Political Franchise.

There have been no changes under this head. The qualifications of a member of the House of Assembly are, having attained 21 years of age, a residence of 12 calendar months, and the possession of personal or real estate of the value of not less than 200*l.* The Colonial Secretary, Attorney-General,

and Receiver-General and Treasurer qualify in respect of their offices.

The qualifications of an elector as to age and residence are similar to those of the representative, and he has also to be the owner of land to the value of 5*l.* or, in New Providence, to be a housekeeper occupying a house, the annual rental of which is not less than 2*l.* 8*s.*, and on the out-islands not less than 1*l.* 4*s.*, for six months.

Councils and Assemblies.

Executive Council.—There is no particular time fixed for the sitting of this Council; the Governor calls a meeting whenever he deems it necessary.

There were no changes in the Members.

The Colonial Secretary, Attorney-General, and Receiver-General and Treasurer are *ex officio* members and there are five unofficial members.

Legislative Council.—There are at present seven members. There were three vacancies during the year, owing to the deaths of Mr. A. C. Lowe and Mr. Robert Butler and to the transfer of Mr. F. C. Halkett, Provost-Marshal and Commandant, to another Colony. Two of the vacancies have been filled by the appointments of Mr. C. A Fraser, Provost Marshal and Commandant, and Mr. H. A. Brook, Registrar of Records.

House of Assembly.—There are 29 members returned for 14 districts, of which New Providence sends 8, Abaco 3, Andros Island 2, Exuma 2, Harbour Island 3, Eleuthera 3, Grand Bahama 1, Inagua 1, Long Island 2, Rum Cay and Watlings 1, San Salvador 2, Crooked Island 1. The duration of the Assembly is limited to seven years. The last general election took place in 1889. The session in 1894 lasted from the 6th February to the 2nd April.

CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

Appointments, Promotions, &c.

Governor His Excellency Sir Ambrose Shea was absent from the 26th June to the 28th October, and again left on the 26th December on final relinquishment of the Government. On both occasions Mr. George Melville, C.M.G., administered the Government and Mr. Nigel B. Burnside acted as Colonial Secretary. From the 1st of January until the arrival of Mr. Melville on the 5th March 1894, Mr. Burnside also acted as Colonial Secretary.

Mr. Robert Butler, Receiver-General and Treasurer, died on the 1st August and was succeeded by Mr. Hesketh Bell.

Mr. H. C. Lightbourne, Port Officer, died on the 26th May, and was succeeded by Mr. R. D. Jeffreys, R.N.

Mr. J. F. W. Turtle resigned his appointment as Examining Officer and Warehouse Keeper and was succeeded by Mr. H. B. L. Jameson.

Chief Justice C. G. Walpole arrived on the 19th March in succession to Mr. R. D. Yelverton.

Mr. F. C. Halkett, Provost-Marshal and Commandant of Constabulary, was appointed Colonial Secretary and Treasurer of the Falkland Islands, and was succeeded by Mr. C. A. Fraser.

Mr. T. A. Thompson, Stipendiary and Circuit Magistrate, was appointed Judge of the Falkland Islands, and was succeeded by Mr. R. S. Johnstone.

There were several changes in the Resident Justices, the principal ones being the transfer of Mr. J. C. O'Halloran from Governor's Harbour to Harbour Island; Mr. P. W. D. Armbrister from Green Turtle Cay to Governor's Harbour; Mr. Thos. F. Jones from The Biminis to Green Turtle Cay; and Mr. W. V. Stuart from the Bight to Long Cay, in succession to Mr. Thos. O'Connor, who was promoted to an office under the Turks Island government.

Population.

According to the census of 1891 it was shown that the population of the Colony was males 22,555, females 25,010.

The following statement shows the births and deaths from that period up to the present year.

Year.	Births.	Deaths.	Difference.
1891 - - - -	1,900	1,052	848
1892 - - - -	1,889	1,229	660
1893 - - - -	1,939	1,181	758
1894 - - - -	1,978	1,114	864
			3,130

As the emigration and immigration are about equal, the population, at the close of the year, can fairly be estimated at 50,695.

No distinction is made in registering the white and coloured population, but the former is estimated to be about one-sixth.

The average birth-rate is about 40 per 1,000, and the death-rate 24 per 1,000.

The marriages recorded during the past four years are:—

1891	362
1892	352
1893	334
1894	354

Ecclesiastical.

There are at present only four state-paid clergymen of the Church of England, and on their incumbencies ceasing the Colony will be relieved, under the Disestablishment Act, of any further payments.

The total amount paid by the Colony under this head amounted to 927*l.*

The following statement shows the number of places of worship in the Colony:—

Episcopal	91
Wesleyan	31
Baptist Union	27
Native Baptists	38
Baptists	67
Presbyterian	1
Roman Catholic	1
Total	256

Education.

There were in 1894 forty-one Government Board Schools with 2,775 boys and 2,617 girls, total 5,392, and an average attendance of 3,259·8, against, in 1893, forty schools, 2,729 boys and 2,537 girls, total 5,266, with an average attendance of 3,287·2; the cost in 1894 being 3,006*l.* 18*s.* 9*d.* as against 2,958*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.* in 1893.

Besides maintaining these schools, the Board contributed 190*l.* towards 13 grant-in-aid schools with 475 boys and 443 girls, total 918, with an average attendance of 506·2.

With regard to the Government Board Schools, the Inspector of Schools remarks: "The organization, discipline and course and method of instruction in the Government schools approximate, as nearly as local circumstances render practicable and expedient, to those of schools under the British and Foreign School Society.

The teachers are, however, with few exceptions, inferior in attainments and in ability to teach; the population is more scattered, causing the attendance to be more irregular, and the hours of instruction are fewer. Hence the results are not generally equal to those produced in good elementary schools in England. Certain expenses of a general nature, *e.g.*, cost of buildings, furniture, materials, administration and inspection are not included under expenditure of each school. The total amount spent was 4,580*l.* 3*s.* 7*d.*, which gives 14*s.* 4½*d.* for each child on the register, or 1*l.* 4*s.* 2½*d.* for each one in average attendance, including the grant-in-aid schools."

The Government Training Institute for teachers was closed at the end of August, having proved a failure. The sum paid during the year was 489*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*

The number of schools in connection with the Church of England was 33, the same as in 1893, with a total on the rolls of 1,718 as against 1,707 in 1893.

Other private schools numbered 35, with 1,415 on the Rolls.

The following statement shows the total number of children in the Colony receiving education :—

Government - - - - -	5,392
Grants-in-aid - - - - -	918
In connexion with the Church of England -	1,718
Other private - - - - -	1,415
Total - - - - -	9,443

Publications

The only newspaper is the "Nassau Guardian," issued bi-weekly, with a circulation of 450 to 500.

Currency.

The average rate of exchange with London during the past year was two per cent.

There is one Bank in the Colony, viz.,—the Bank of Nassau, with a note circulation of 5,500*l.*, with a capital paid-up of 10,000*l.*, and with deposits amounting to 19,622*l.* The estimated amount of coin in circulation is between 7,000*l.*, and 9,000*l.* The principal coins in circulation are British and American. The American gold coins, viz.,—$20, $10, $5, $2½ and $1, pass at their face value, but their legal tender is respectively 4*l.* 2*s.*, 2*l.* 1*s.*, 1*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.*, 10*s.* 3*d.*, and 4*s.* 1*d.* There is no limit to legal tender of silver or copper. Accounts are by law required to be kept in sterling.

Imports and Exports.

The imports for the year amounted to 174,969*l.*, as against 188,345*l.*, in 1893, showing a decrease of 13,376*l.*, and the exports to 119,378*l.*, as against 117,021*l.*, in 1893, showing an increase of 2,357*l.*

The following comparative statements show the course of trade :—

Imports.

Country.	1893.	1894.
United Kingdom - - -	45,758	45,040
British Colonies - - -	3,588	2,687
Foreign Countries - - -	138,999	127,242
Total	188,345	174,969

Exports.

Country.	1893.	1894.
United Kingdom - - -	13,966	16,301
British Colonies - -	854	798
Foreign Countries - - -	102,201	102,279
Total	117,021	119,378

From the above statements it will be seen that in 1893 the imports exceeded the exports by 71,324*l.*, and in 1894 by 55,591*l.*

The following statement of the principal articles of food imported during the years from 1891 to 1894 inclusive shows that in nearly every instance the importations in 1892 and 1893 exceed, either in value or in quantity, those of 1891 and 1894. During the intervening years a severe drought prevailed and the importations of bread-stuffs were larger. The food crops of 1894 were exceptionally large, and hence the falling off in the importations. For instance, the quantity of flour imported in the years 1891 and 1894 was respectively 27,571 and 32,967 barrels, and in 1892 and 1893, 35,884 and 37,330 barrels, showing an excess in the latter years of 12,676 barrels.

Statement of the Principal Articles of Food imported during years 1891, 1892, 1893, 1894.

Articles.	Quantity.				Value.			
	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.
					£	£	£	£
Beans and Peas - - bus.	651	1,172	1,688	593	245	342	479	193
Bread, Corn - - - brls.	527	558	624	469	264	259	281	201
Bread, Fancy - - - lbs.	49,528	56,748	47,498	44,073	715	871	724	635
Butter - - - - lbs.	112,562	105,419	111,213	107,900	4,623	4,746	5,542	4,836
Corn - - - - bus.	6,726	9,112	8,250	7,090	889	1,115	960	843
Corn-meal and hominy - brls.	11,005	15,852	14,391	11,213	8,412	10,513	9,028	7,070
Flour - - - - brls.	27,571	35,884	37,330	32,967	26,621	27,773	25,712	20,295
Lard - - - - lbs.	168,518	163,487	159,469	181,709	2,369	2,403	2,725	2,382
Meat, salted, (including pork) - lbs.	613,354	615,638	543,035	510 016	7,696	9,608	10,276	8,065
Meat, fresh - - - lbs.	23,008	19,976	19,262	21,864	919	791	761	827
Potatoes and other Vegetables - brls.	1,438	1,832	2,048	2,111	820	987	1,205	893
Rice - - - - lbs.	1,488,438	1,612,600	1,617,418	1,544,222	6,233	7,009	5,616	4,754
Fish dried - - - lbs.	28,166	40,600	41,087	26,251	232	353	337	237

Comparative Statement of other Principal Imports.

Articles.	Quantity.				Value.			
	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.
					£	£	£	£
Ale and porter in bottles doz. qts.	2,154	2,159	2,674	2,132	699	848	891	768
Ale and porter in wood - gls.	9,557	8,000	6,789	4,159	716	708	458	449
Coffee - - - - lbs.	98,002	49,699	77,320	75,824	3,712	1,383	2,012	2,847
Copper, Yellow Metal - - lbs.	15,573	23,304	10,609	20,015	445	572	257	428
Gin, whiskey and other unenumerated Spirits. - gls.	12,738	14,435	12,123	10,572	2,169	2,404	1,994	1,742
Machinery - - - - val. £	260	256	2,228	3,824	260	256	2,228	3,824
Manures - - - - brls.	2,174	2,305	1,568	1,016	2,494	2,466	1,744	1,169
Molasses - - - - gls.	6,174	9,904	6,760	8,816	293	467	383	463
Nails of Iron - - - - lbs.	84,394	97,302	87,912	94,471	532	658	534	556
Oats and Bran - - - - bus.	6,792	11,078	9,124	11,057	668	957	822	990
Oil, kerosene - - - - gls.	53,595	71,838	64,094	72,249	1,562	1,620	1,317	1,538
Oils paying 9*d*. gln., linseed, &c. - gls.	5,326	6,955	5,704	6,050	610	811	614	670

Articles.	Quantity.				Value.			
	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.
					£	£	£	£
Oils paying 1s. gll., essential - glls.	634	178	1,776	212	54	56	119	43
Rails, iron - - No.	—	—	2,589	—	—	—	900	—
Rum 18° to 24° - glls.	20,626	21,397	15,988	14,525	3,205	2,601	2,059	1,663
Rum, weaker than 24° - glls.	645	1,228	149	—	73	152	32	—
Sugar, refined - - lbs.	287,126	184,687	189,904	203,435	2,768	1,739	2,070	1,778
Sugar, unrefined - lbs.	679,260	841,749	740,017	770,079	5,518	6,345	5,532	5,710
Sugar, white clayed - lbs.	85,751	105,586	114,431	85,664	888	739	1,177	751
Tobacco, manufactured - lbs.	81,188	67,535	89,611	81,099	3,008	2,496	3,252	2,738
Tobacco, unmanufactured - lbs.	40,061	61,061	40,692	43,428	1,279	1,737	1,307	1,121
Wines - - - glls.	2,868	4,628	3,523	3,157	783	1,052	774	804
Ad valorem at 20 per cent. - val. £	75,639	82,208	76,391	75,994	75,639	82,208	76,391	75,994

The following is a comparative statement of the principal exports:—

Article.	Quantity.				Value.			
	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.
					£	£	£	£
Bark, cascarilla - - lbs.	53,160	119,180	51,172	61,251	405	921	299	544
Bahama-hemp - - - lbs.	21,050	68,352	117,430	174,072	149	692	1,200	1,728
Cotton - - - - lbs.	56,273	95,367	101,236	65,658	927	1,583	1,677	907
Curiosities, marine - - val. £	163	200	118	124	163	200	118	124
Fruit and vegetables, fresh, viz.:—								
Bananas - - bunches	5,420	8,966	2,924	3,121	197	432	122	137
Cocoanuts - - - No.	28,166	40,550	44,550	10,089	112	111	56	42
Grape fruit - - - No.	178,994	161,015	67,400	101,100	314	267	98	193
Limes - - - No.	57,500	(brls.) 15	—	—	25	8	—	—
Oranges, China - - No.	2,125,097	3,082,870	1,097,100	675,619	2,253	3,025	1,085	580
Oranges, Seville - - No.	30,500	1,200	6,000	—	30	1	3	—

Article.	Quantity.				Value.			
	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.
Fruit and Vegetables, fresh,—*cont.*					£	£	£	£
Pineapples - - - doz.	510,408	665,332	472,960	569,832	45,966	56,061	39,386	42,568
Pears, avocado - - No.	8,870	8,050	(crates) 125	No. 2,350	15	14	12	10
Sappodillas - - - No.	90,600	63,600	58,460	29,400	45	30	33	19
Shaddocks - - - No.	2,500	—	390	—	7	—	2	—
Tomatoes - - crates.	1,833	1,842	947	1,063	74	84	33	51
Goat-skins - - val. £	45	—	—	—	45	—	—	—
Hats, straw - - - No.	2,722	3,065	4,350	2,060	18	29	44	17
Hides, raw - - - No.	7,209	9,962	7,410	4,559	257	360	246	87
Horses - - - - No.	7	—	—	6	34	—	—	43
Mats, straw - - - No.	90	100	235	121	2	1	5	6
Preserves, viz.:—								
Cocoa Plums - - c/s	36	—	—	—	8		—	—
Guavas - - - c/s	614	450	100	300	249	243	33	446
Pine-apples - - - c/s	16,919	16,929	13,736	15,397	3,793	3,425	2,467	3,022

Article.	Quantity.				Value.			
	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.
					£	£	£	£
Shells, small - - brls.	746	562	559	845	413	410	437	492
Salt - - - bus.	146,578	120,130	176,515	156,688	1,705	1,978	2,068	1,717
Shells, conch - - No.	106,682	50,245	97,273	49,434	187	165	197	83
Shell-work - - pkgs.	105	(val.) £ 30	(val.) £ 12	(val.) £ 22	32	30	12	22
Sponge - - lbs.	1,105,974	1,143,399	945,612	1,000,928	58,682	65,544	58,615	59,155
Turtle - - - No.	2,065	983	1,382	1,719	1,017	610	862	656
Turtle-shell - - lbs.	11,026	5,543	5,462	7,343	6,847	3,832	4,158	5,310
Turtle-backs - - val. £	9	(No.) 92	(No.) 10	(No.) 3	9	31	6	4
Woods, viz.:—								
Cedar - - tons	2	—	(pcs.) 4,000	—	3	—	20	—
Crab - - sticks	200	—	200	4	1	—	1	1
Hardwood - - pcs.	76	(tons) 52	—	—	44	144	—	—
Lignum vitæ - - tons	375	38	130	74	838	79	413	164
Logwood - - tons	473	967	466	201	1,720	3,507	1,554	635

Article.		Quantity.				Value.			
		1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.
						£	£	£	£
Woods.—*continued.*									
Madeira	- pcs.	117	—	—	—	45	—	—	—
Mahogany	- pcs.	11	30	92	(logs) 12	30	50	119	21
Sabica	- logs	426	(tons) 123	105	(tons) 76	157	159	265	152
Satin	- tons	35	4	(pcs.) 350	—	87	14	9	—
Timbers	- No.	610	1,050	—	(pcs.) 200	6	27	—	2
Yellow wood	- tons	10	22	11	—	30	60	2	—
Timbers	- feet	—	12,400	—	—	—	71	—	—

Shipping.

The following statement shows a falling off in the number of steamers entered and cleared in 1894 as compared with 1893; due to the fact that nine more entered and cleared at Inagua.

These is also a falling off, as compared with 1893, in the number of sailing vessels.

Years.	Entered.				Cleared.			
	Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
1893 - -	355	25,186	111	150,123	358	27,893	106	146,289
1894 - -	333	23,895	100	149,353	335	23,770	96	144,865

Statement showing the Nationalities of the several vessels entered and cleared at ports in the Bahamas in 1894.

Nationalities of Vessels.	Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
British - - -	434	24,911	54	70,730
American - - -	177	20,285	126	207,372
Haytian - - -	58	1,469	—	—
Dutch - - -	2	382	—	—
Norwegian - - -	2	618	4	2,316
German - - -	—	—	12	13,800

The steamers of the Ward Line of the United States of America, under contract with the Bahamas Government, make fortnightly trips to Nassau, hence the large excess of American over British steamers. There is a local steamship company with one steamer with a net tonnage of 588. This vessel makes monthly trips between New York and Nassau.

Agriculture.

The unsystematic manner in which land is cultivated in these islands makes it impossible to furnish information with regard to

the acreage of cultivated land in the Colony. The only instance in which cultivation is carried on with any system is that of the Sisal or Bahama-hemp, and the number of acres estimated as under cultivation with this plant is a little over 20,000. In most cases, small patches of land, ranging from perhaps one to five acres, are cut down and planted with maize, potatoes, peas, &c., and after a few years are abandoned and new places felled ; this goes on until the lands have regained their fertility, when they are again used. In some few instances fertilizers are resorted to, more especially of late years in the cultivation of the pineapple.

The following is a statement of the principal agricultural exports for the years 1893 and 1894 :—

Article.	1893.		1894.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£
Pineapples - Doz.	472,960	39,386	569,832	42,568
Oranges - - No.	1,097,100	1,085	575,619	580
Bananas - Bunch.	2,924	122	3,121	137
Tomatoes - -Crates	947	33	1,063	51
Guavas, preserved - c/s.	100	33	300	446
Pineapples, „ - c/s.	13,756	2,467	15,397	3,022
Pineapples, dried - brls.	28	146	—	—
Bahama-hemp - lbs.	117,430	1,200	174,072	1,728

During 1894 the Government granted letters patent for two fibre-cleaning machines.

Manufactures and Fisheries.

There are two factories in the Colony, one for preserving fruit, and the other for making soap. During the year, 22,000 cases of pine-apples were canned, using 60,000 dozen of the fruit, which cost one shilling per dozen. When the factory is in full work, about 200 labourers are employed daily, at an average cost of one shilling and sixpence each. The whole of the canned pine-apples in this factory are shipped to the United States.

The Sponge Industry is, without doubt, the life of the Colony. Several hundreds of vessels, ranging from 5 to 20 tons, are engaged in this work. Besides, it gives employment to numbers of men and women in preparing the article for export.

The following statement shows the quantities and values of this article exported in the years 1893 and 1894.

Sponge.	1893.		1894.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Lbs.	£	Lbs.	£
Clippings	122,675	439	101,915	207
Glove	4,872	266	9,064	450
Grass	305,302	9,772	291,353	9,178
Hardhead	15,188	1,007	12,156	731
Reef	73,957	6,647	68,816	6,362
Refuse	3,222	54	20,162	47
Velvet	242,595	18,880	313,985	22,220
Wool	120,446	18,811	119,440	16,858
Yellow	57,355	2,669	64,073	3,102
	945,612	58,615	1,000,928	59,155

A trade in Conch-pearls is carried on, but it would appear that they are privately exported out of the Colony, as no mention is made of them in the exports.

Grants of Lands.

The number of acres granted in the Colony during 1894 was 1,132½, 253½ being on Andros Island, and 724 on Inagua. Some of the land was sold at 5*s.* an acre, and some at 10*s.* 3*d.*

Gaols and Prisons.

As compared with 1893, there was a falling off of 29 in the number of persons committed in 1894, *i.e.*,—

	1893.	1894.
Men	121	132
Women	79	69
Juveniles	66	36
Total	266	237

The daily average was 54·20, as against 54·05 in 1893, and that of the sick list was 1·20, as against 4·63. There was one death.

The total cost was 1,355*l.*

The estimated amount of the prisoners' earnings was 895*l.*, their labour being on the roads and other public works.

Criminal Statistics.

The number of persons summoned or apprehended was 73 in excess of the previous year, but of this excess 63 are orders made over and above those of 1893 under the compulsory clauses of the Education Act.

The number of cases dealt with in the Superior Court was 11 less than in 1893, and is a diminution of about one-third.

Comparative statement of convictions and acquittals in the Summary Jurisdiction Courts.

	Convictions.		Acquittals.	
	1893.	1894.	1893.	1894.
Offences against the person -	248	217	192	112
Prædial larceny - - -	87	61	38	26
Other offences against property -	92	83	84	65
Offences against Masters' and Servants' Acts.	1	8	—	5
Other offences - - -	898	1,175	618	596

The following is a classification of the punishments :—

	1893.	1894.
Fine - - - - - - -	835	980
Imprisonment in lieu of fine - - - -	170	241
Peremptory Imprisonment - - - -	159	78
Whipping - - - - - -	19	53
Bound over with or without sureties or other trivial punishment.	143	192
Total - - -	1,326	1,544

Hospital.

The New Providence Asylum consists of the hospital proper, the Poor House, and the Lazaretto or Lepers' Department.

At the close of 1893 there were remaining 58 males and 52 females. During the year 1894, 148 males and 129 females were admitted, making a daily average of 41·1 males and 43·3 females.

The mortality is greater than in the previous year. The high mortality is attributed by the Resident Surgeon Superintendent chiefly to the following causes:—"Old age, phthisis, which is "very prevalent and fatal to our coloured people, and the "wretched habit the friends have of bringing patients to hospital "when all hope has ceased and when the only object to be gained "is to have the persons buried at the public expense."

The Victoria Jubilee Hospital is reported as having proved to be of "most excellent service, has filled a long felt want, and "appears to be most highly appreciated by the people. Visitors "have expressed the opinion that it compares most favourably "with similar institutions in the West Indies." The following is a statement with regard to the admissions, &c.:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Remaining from 1893 - - -	15	10	25
Admitted in 1894 - - -	86	76	162
Total under treatment for the year 1894	101	86	187
Died - - - - -	15	15	30
Discharged - - - -	62	52	114
Transferred to Infirmary - -	8	4	12
Remaining at end of year - -	16	15	31

Infirmary and Poor House.

In this part of the institution are kept the old and infirm, and it is in this branch of the establishment that the chief mortality occurs, causing such a high death-rate in the whole establishment.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Remaining from 1893 - - -	40	40	80
Admitted in 1894 - - -	58	52	110
Total - - - -	98	92	190
Died - - - - -	35	27	62
Discharged - -	33	30	63
Remaining - - - -	29	35	64

Lazaretto.

In this department two patients died, five were admitted, seven were discharged, leaving one at the close of the year.

Public Dispensary.

The cost of medicines for the year amounted to 325*l.* 14*s.* 0*d.*; this includes medicines sent to the out-islands.

Lunatic Asylum.

This institution adjoins the New Providence Asylum and is under the control of the Resident Surgeon Superintendent of that Establishment.

The admissions during the year are largely in excess of the previous year's and greater than they have ever been, so far as the records show. There is a great want of increased accommodation. There were 31 admissions, a daily average of 14 males and 15 females, 9 deaths, 8 cured and 3 relieved.

Charitable and Literary Institutions.

The St. Andrew's Society, established in 1798, is a society which gives charitable assistance to persons in distress. It has 42 members, composed chiefly of the principal gentlemen of the place. It has invested funds to the amount of 1,085*l.*

Libraries.—The principal Library is the Nassau Public Library, Reading Room, and Museum, which has 13,500 volumes, besides having on file several English and American leading papers and reviews. It is supported to a great extent by Government. A small subscription is charged which is used in the support of the institution. There were 196 subscribers, 146 annual and 50 transient.

There are also small libraries at Inagua, Harbour Island, and Green Turtle Cay, Abaco.

The salaries of the librarians are paid by Government.

Meteorological Observations.

The following table shows the mean temperature and rainfall for the year :—

	Temperature.	Rainfall.
	Fahr.	Inches.
January	74·1°	0·45
February	74·4	0·09
March	76·0	1·32
April	76·6	0·36
May	80·6	8·99
June	83·3	8·40
July	85·6	4·60
August	86·8	5·92
September	84·9	13·82
October	82·7	10·55
November	78·7	3·73
December	74·5	0·99
Year	79·8	59·22

It is generally admitted that the climate of the Bahamas is excellent. From November to April the average temperature is between 74° and 78°, and refreshing sea breezes prevail during the summer months, which has the effect of making the climate more bearable.

The lowest air temperature recorded was 54·1° and the highest 97·3°.

The sanitary condition of the City and suburbs has been very good. The health of the Colony has also been good, no disease of a contagious or infectious character having appeared.

Savings Bank.

There is one post-office savings bank in Nassau, with branches at Governor's Harbour and Rock Sound, Eleuthera, Harbour Island, and Inagua. There are 881 depositors. The deposits during the year (2,145) amounted to 3,804*l.* 19*s.* 0*d.*, and withdrawals (1,343) to 3,914*l.* 13*s.* 2*d.*; 227 accounts were closed and 255 opened. The total amount at the close of the year at the credit of the depositors came to 8,031*l.* 1*s.* 5*d.*, while the invested funds amounted to 7,754*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.* Since 1889 there has been a steady decrease of the deficit of the Savings Bank.

Friendly Societies.

There are 51 friendly charitable and temperance societies in the Bahamas, with 4,022 members. The object of most of these societies is to aid members in sickness and to bury the dead.

Telegraphs and Telephones.

The Bahamas cable, extending from Nassau to Jupiter, Florida, is 211 knots long, with 6 miles of land line. It is owned by the Bahamas Government and has been in working order since 4th February, 1892. The superintendent reports that the cable, as shown by weekly tests, continues in perfect condition. The total cost of the cable was 33,311*l.*

There was a decrease in the revenue of the department, which is attributed to a general depression in trade:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Receipts for the year	993	17	0
Including Government and press messages	404	14	7
Cash paid into Treasury	£589	2	5

Annual charges on account of the cable:—

Interest on loan	1,200	0	0
Sinking fund	535	0	0
Repair fund	700	0	0
Salaries	452	10	0
Miscellaneous	30	3	7
Total	£2,917	13	7

There were 955 messages sent, 978 received, and 220 services, a total of 2,153.

The rates on messages are as follows:—

	s.	*d.*
Nassau to points in America west of Mississippi River, per word	1	10
Nassau to points in America east of the Mississippi River, per word	1	6
Nassau to points in Canada, per word	1	8
Nassau to points in Great Britain, France and Germany, per word	2	6

Telephones.—Government House is connected by telephone with the Colonial Secretary's Office, and the Police Barracks, and the latter place is connected with its out-stations in Grant's Town and the Eastern District.

Post Offices.

The total revenue for the year was 1,840*l.* 12*s.* 4*d.*, with an expenditure of 1,782*l.* 4*s.* 10*d.* for salaries and wages and all expenses of postal service, and 2,395*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.* for conveyance of mails beyond the Colony, showing a net deficit of 2,337*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.*

The total number of letters dealt with was 145,794, post cards 3,065, newspapers 48,088, book packets, samples, and circulars 43,379, and parcels 2,012.

General Remarks.

The various subjects have been dealt with under their special heads and there remains but little to add in concluding this report.

The seasons have been very favourable and the people having reaped large provision crops their condition generally is better than that of the previous year. The outlook in this respect for the year 1895 is very promising.

NIGEL B. BURNSIDE,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

No. 140.

BARBADOS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1894.

(For Report for 1893, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 113.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
15 *August* 1895.

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1895.

[C.—7847.-1.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
107	Hong Kong	1893
108	St. Vincent	,,
109	Gibraltar	,,
110	Bahamas	,,
111	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
112	Leeward Islands	,,
113	Barbados	,,
114	Malta	,,
115	Zululand	,,
116	British Honduras	,,
117	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
118	Falkland Islands	,,
119	Rodrigues	,,
120	Mauritius	,,
121	Straits Settlements	,,
122	Labuan	,,
123	Basutoland	1893–94
124	St. Lucia	1893
125	St. Helena	,,
126	Ceylon	,,
127	Fiji	,,
128	Grenada	,,
129	Sierra Leone	,,
130	British Bechuanaland	1893–94
131	British New Guinea	1892–3 & 1893–4
132	Lagos	1893
133	British Guiana	1893–94
134	Jamaica	,,
135	Newfoundland	1893
136	Gold Coast	,,
137	Zululand	1894
138	Bermuda	,,
139	Bahamas	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.

No. 140.

BARBADOS.

(For Report for 1893, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 113.)

Sir J. S. HAY to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House,
May 31, 1895.

MY LORD MARQUESS,

I HAVE the honour to forward by this mail copies of the Blue Book of Barbados for the year 1894, together with a Report thereon by the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.
J. S. HAY.

BLUE BOOK REPORT, 1894.

Taxation.

1. The taxation of the Island may be divided under two heads, the Indirect Taxation, which is collected by the general revenue for general purposes, and the Parochial Taxation which is collected by the vestries for local expenditure. The former is raised by the customs and trade taxes, and the latter by assessments on acreage and rental valuations of properties.

In some parishes there is a tax on traders, assessed on the annual business profits.

2. The average acreage tax for parochial revenue varies from 2*s.* 8*d.* to 4*s.* 7*d.* in the £ in the several parishes, and the average amounts to 3*s.* 6*d.* in the £.

3. The rental assessments vary from 4½*d.* to 1*s.* 7*d.* and the average rate is 11*d.* in the £.

When the owner as well as the occupier pays tax on leasehold property the tax paid by the former averages 10*d.* in the £.

4. There is a highway tax, fixed by law, of 9*d.* per acre on land, and 1½*d.* in the £ on rental valuations.

5. There is also a special tax which was formerly levied for the upkeep of the militia but is now appropriated to the general revenue in aid of the expenditure for police, amounting to 8*d.* per acre on land, and 2*d.* in the £ on rental valuation.

6. Taking the population of the island at 185,000, the indirect taxation represented by the receipts under all heads of revenue which go to make up the retail prices of articles of general consumption may be put at 14*s.* per head.

7. The total taxable acreage of land is 100,000 acres and the taxation on it for all purposes amounts to an average of 4*s.* 11*d.* per acre. The total rental valuations amount to 98,378*l.*, and the average rate 1*s.* 1*d.* in the £.

8. There is also a tax on vehicles of 2*s.* 6*d.* per wheel, and on draught animals; of horses 6*s.*, mules 3*s.* 9*d.* and donkeys 2*s.* each. A certain proportion of penalties recovered in the Magistrates' courts for breaches of highway and sanitary laws is paid to the Parochial treasurers.

9. The total revenue of the Parochial treasuries for all services was, in 1894, 59,366*l.*, including a grant of 5,450*l.* from general revenue in aid of the upkeep of the roads.

10. The total expenditure of the vestries was 56,719*l.*, the greater portion of which was for the maintenance of the almshouses and poor relief. A total expenditure on 470 miles of roads of 14,641*l.*, or an average of 31*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* per mile, is included in the 56,719*l.*

Revenue.

	£
11. The estimated revenue under all heads for 1894 was - - - - -	161,034
The actual receipts under all heads amounted to - - - - -	160,624
As against an estimate for 1893 of - -	160,227
And actual receipts - - - -	161,730

The following are the receipts under the principal heads for the past five years:—

Year.	Customs.	Port and Harbour.	Land Tax and Militia.	Excise.	Licenses.	Fees and Fines and Fees of Office.	Post Office.	Miscellaneous.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1890 - - -	*116,415	5,616	3,644	30,517	6,628	6,144	6,650	16,965	186,179
1891 - - -	99,779	4,686	3,021	25,298	7,066	5,772	5,832	11,824	163,905
1892 - - -	92,340	4,299	3,309	28,919	6,249	6,049	7,908	10,666	162,663
			Police Tax.						
1893 - - -	93,480	4,614	3,899	†32,553	6,169	5,758	6,019	8,237	161,730
1894 - - -	94,244	4,234	3,619	29,422	6,473	5,624	6,732	10,276	160,624

* 1890. In this year the largest crop of sugar ever made in this island was reaped.

† 1893. A change in the system of collecting duty on rum distilled in the Island gave a sudden apparent increase to the receipts under excise.

BARBADOS. 1894.

12. The Revenue for the past four years has been decreasing in inverse ratio to the population, being at the rate of about 1,000*l.* per annum, while the population has been increasing at at least the same rate.

It is satisfactory to notice that the Postal Revenue increases steadily, while great reductions have been made in the postal rates.

Expenditure.

13. The total expenditure for 1894 was estimated at - - - - - £165,291
The actual expenditure was - - - 161,279
As against an estimated expenditure for 1893 165,632
And an actual expenditure of - - 164,633

14. Of the 161,279*l.*, 73,562*l.* comes under fixed establishments, and 87,717*l.* under services exclusive of establishments.

There are no new items of expenditure under either head which call for special remark.

15. The expenditure represents a tax of nearly 10*s.* 9*d.* per head of the population, which compares favourably with that of other places.

Public Debt.

16. The Public Debt of the Colony remained at the same figure as in 1893, 30,100*l.*, incurred in a loan raised in 1883 for carrying out various important Public Works, amongst which were :—

	£	
The Prison Extension - -	10,336	Carried out between August 1883 and May 1887.
The Reformatory - - -	9,163	
The Central Police Station Extension	2,200	
Public Buildings Clock Tower -	1,795	
Harbour Police Station - -	1,588	
Inland Telephones - - -	1,300	
Harbour Dredger - - -	1,000	
Quarantine Hospital - -	600	

The interest payable on the debentures is 4 per cent. The amount to the credit of the Sinking Fund on the 31st December 1894 was 12,574*l.*

Military Expenditure.

17. The Return of Military Expenditure for 1894, shows that 54,144*l.* was expended on the garrison at Barbados, the number

of all ranks stationed here being under 1,000. Of the above total, 29,782*l.* was for their pay and 15,491*l.* for their provisions and clothing; and of this, which amounted to 44,273*l.*, the greater part will have been spent in the Island.

18. The removal of the troops to St. Lucia is getting nearer every year, and the severe monetary loss to the Colony must very soon be taken into account in its financial calculations.

Public Works.

19. Nothing beyond the ordinary requirements for the upkeep and additions to Public Buildings, &c. was carried out this year. Owing to the death of Mr. Brady, Superintendent of Public Works, the Government decided to engage a special engineer for the carrying out of the improvements in the accommodation for berthing vessels in the Careenage and for the erection of a coaling jetty. The question of the larger extension of the Harbour Improvements was postponed for the present.

The total amount expended on Public Works during the year was 3,868*l.*

Legislation.

20. Twenty-nine Acts were passed by the Legislature which received the Royal Assent.

None of the Acts passed, though very useful locally, had any effect of importance on matters outside the Colony.

21. The subject which formed the principal topic of interest in the Legislative Chamber during the year was that of the rural water supply. In 1886 a contract, with an annual subsidy of 5,000*l.*, to supply the rural districts of the Island with water had been made with the Barbados Water Supply Company, the capital of which was raised and held by shareholders in England. The company performed its contract to a certain extent, but found itself continually obliged to apply to the Legislature of the Colony for further extension of time and other legislative expedients to enable it to carry out its original undertaking, failing which it would evidently speedily terminate. These advances to the Legislature met with very strong opposition from various quarters; and it finally became a question whether it would be better to allow the Bridgetown Water Works Company (practically a local company) which supplied the city and suburbs, to have the entire supplying of the Island, or for the Government, as representing the public at large, to take the matter into its own hands, buy up both companies and carry out the works by a public department. This course was finally decided upon, and it was arranged that it should be carried into effect by legislation during the ensuing year.

BARBADOS. 1894.

22. On the death of the Superintendent of Public Works this year an Act was passed reducing the salary of the Office from 600*l.* to 300*l.* The Legislature at the same time agreed that when special engineering work is required to be done the services of a special engineer should be obtained to carry it out.

Political Franchise.

23. The qualifications of voters for the House of Assembly and Vestry elections remain the same viz.,—*Freehold Estate* of annual value not less than 5*l.* *Rents of land* amounting to 5*l.* per annum. *Occupants* assessed parochially at 15*l.* annual value. *Taxpayers:* St. Michael's 2*l.*, other parishes 1*l.*, per annum. *Salaries:* In receipt of 4*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* per month as agricultural attorney, manager, bookkeeper, clerk, agent, or upper servant. *Income:* In receipt of 50*l.* per annum from pension, occupation, office, or trade other than that of servant. *Income:* 15*l.* annually as interest or dividends. Barristers, solicitors, physicians, surgeons, or holders of degrees B.A. or M.A. or Testamur, Codrington College. *Lodger* in house rated at 15*l.* per annum, paying not less than 15*l.* for lodgings.

24. The total number of electors registered at the last general election on 17th September 1894, was 2,167, being 136 more than in 1893. The increase occurred in the parishes of St. Michael and St. Joseph.

Councils and Assemblies.

25. The Honourable Oswald Jones, who had sat in the Legislative Council since February 1881, resigned his seat owing to ill-health, and his place was filled by the appointment of the Honourable E. B. Colvin, who then represented St. Andrew in the House of Assembly, and was a member of the Executive Committee.

26. In the House of Assembly certain changes took place at the General Election in September. The newly elected members were :—

Mr. A. S. Bryden *vice* Mr. T. Peterkin for St. Michael.

Messrs. C. E. Gooding, M. B. and W. D. Shepherd *vice* Messrs. H. E. L. King and E. G. Watts for St. Philip.

Mr. R. Haynes *vice* Mr. C. C. Knollys, C.M.G., (Colonial Secretary, transferred to Trinidad), for St. Joseph.

Civil Establishment.

27. The principal changes were as follows :—

His Excellency the Governor, Sir James Hay, K.C.M.G., went to England on leave from the 21st October 1893 to the 22nd

April 1894. During his absence the Government was administered by Major-General G. Paton, C.M.G., Commanding the Troops.

The Colonial Secretary, Mr. C. C. Knollys, was promoted to be Colonial Secretary of Trinidad in February, and Mr. G. R. Le Hunte was transferred from Dominica (Leeward Islands) to the vacant office in March. During the interval, Mr. F. B. Smith, Provost-Marshal and Inspector of Prisons, acted as Colonial Secretary.

Mr. E. T. Grannum was appointed Auditor-General in May in succession to Mr. C. A. King Harman, who was promoted to be Colonial Secretary of Mauritius in 1893. During the interval, Mr. W. H. Bailey, Chief Clerk in the Colonial Secretary's Office, acted as Auditor-General.

Mr. S. J. Fraser, transferred from Tobago, was appointed Judge of the Petty Debt Court in December 1893, in succession to Mr. H. J. Lee Evans, deceased.

Mr. J. H. Brady, Superintendent of Public Works, died in July and his duties were carried out by Mr. E. F. S. Bowen, Chief Clerk in the Public Works Department, who was subsequently appointed to the vacant office.

Mr. G. T. White, Governor of the Prison, was promoted to be Superintendent of Prisons in Trinidad, and his office was filled by the appointment of Mr. J. M. Lash, Governor of the Gaol in Grenada.

Pensions.

28. The total amount of the Pension List for 1894 was 2,936*l.*, as against 3,631*l.* in 1893. No pension amounting to 100*l.* was granted during the year.

The principal pensioners (in receipt of pensions over 100*l.*) who died during the year were Mr. E. G. Clawson, 224*l.*; the Rev. W. D. Arrindell, 210*l.*; and Mr. A. St. John Watts, 133*l.*

Foreign Consuls.

29. The only changes in the Consular Representatives was the appointment of Mr. A. B. St. Hill as Vice-Consul for the United States in place of Mr. J. Challenor Lynch. Amongst the chief European countries, Italy and Belgium have no official representatives here.

Population and Vital Statistics.

30. The population of the Island at the date of the last census, 1891, was returned at 182,306 in an area of 166 square miles,

which gave an average of 1,100 to the square mile; but almost the whole Island being divided up into sugar estates, on the majority of which there is only the residence of the proprietors or managers and their domestics, the bulk of the population is confined to localities which would give a far higher average to the square mile than that above.

The population of Bridgetown and the parish of St. Michael was 56,183 on an area of 15 square miles, which gives over 3,700 to the square mile.

31. The only other Island under somewhat similar conditions in which the population per mile exceeds Barbados is Malta (including Gozo and Comino). In 1891 these returned a population of 177,225 on an area of 116 square miles, giving an average of over 1,500 to the square mile. These figures include the garrison, which is 10,000, as against less than 1,000 here, and also the crews of ships in harbour, which last have been deducted from the figures for this Island. In the case of Malta if, as is generally the case, there were men-of-war in harbour, the figures are material.

32. There is no doubt that our population is increasing at a rapid rate; in 1861 it was 152,727; in 1871, 162,042; in 1881, 171,860; in 1891, 182,306; and the rate of increase may be practically put at between 1,000 and 2,000 a year. Unfortunately the system of recording vital statistics in the Colony is not at all satisfactory; there is no proper record of births or deaths, but only of baptisms and burials instead; and though the number of deaths and burials may here be said to coincide, it by no means follows that that holds good of births and baptisms. The objection which has been raised to any alteration is based on the ground of unnecessary expense, but it keeps us behind many an inferior place in this respect. The return of baptisms for 1894 was 7,281 and of burials 6,367, showing that the increase this year could not have been less than between 900 and 1,000, in spite of the high death-rate. Taking the baptisms as births, the rate is 39 per 1,000, and the death-rate 34. But this last figure was abnormally large in this year, owing to the severe epidemic of typhoid and dysentery which visited the Island during the last half of the year, after the termination of the long and disastrous drought. The rains, when they did come, were insufficient to either carry into the sea the vegetable matter washed down from the higher to the lower lands, or to drive the disease-producing germ sufficiently deep into the ground to render it innocuous. The topographical analysis of the death-rate during this period is instructive. From the highlands of St. John and St. Andrew in the interior it rose from 16·7 and 19·6 per 1,000 respectively, to 33·1 and 45·5 per 1,000 in the low flat districts of Christ Church and St. Philip on the coast, the maximum figures being reached in the latter. The ordinary death-rate for the whole Island rose

to the abnormal figure of 35 per 1,000. As the General Hospital in Bridgetown received a great number of typhoid and dysentery cases from all over the Island, the death-rate of St. Michael's parish was also raised beyond its fair average to 39·6.

The mortality was principally among the children and the aged; in St. Philip's two-thirds of the death were infants.

33. A comparison of the following figures is interesting:—

Death-rate of Barbados.

Decade.	Rate per 1,000.
1861–1870 - - - -	21·54
1871–1880 - - - -	33·66
1881–1890 - - - -	27·01
1891–1894 - - - -	29·71
One year 1894 - - - -	34·40

And this with a population increasing at the rate of almost 10 per cent. per annum. Had it not been for the providentially low prices of flour and breadstuffs this year, (*See Imports*) the result of disease and death would have been even more marked amongst our great labouring population. To what does this point but the natural result of a struggle for existence in an overcrowded and ever overcrowding population? It does not mean that Barbados is getting less healthy or that there is any fear of its losing its reputation for being the healthiest of Her Majesty's tropical possessions, and even of its being able to bear comparison with any other place in this respect. It means that nature is exerting herself in a very unmistakable way; that the fight for life is getting sharper and that when hard times come, and their shadow is at our doors, the difficulties will become accentuated. No doubt in theory the weak will disappear before the strong, but experience shows that, unless some outlet be found for the surplus able-bodied of the population, the proportion of weak will gradually rise till they are not replaced by the strong. To ignore the ultimate result of this state of affairs in the physical life of our people is impossible, and therefore a solution of the difficulty must be found, and in this case the only practical one, and one to which nature will respond, is emigration. A Commission has been appointed to investigate and report on the best means of securing or encouraging the emigration of able-bodied families to other Islands in the West Indies where they may find permanent homes and be able to cultivate lands with easily marketable products.

This will form an important subject in next year's history of the Island; in the meantime it is sufficient to draw attention to it

here. It would be well if the lower classes of the population here would recognise the vital importance to themselves of finding new room for the expansion of their vigour. No notion of obtaining this by going away for a few months, leaving their families to look after themselves, and returning for a spell to spend their earnings in this Island, will help them now, nor by subdividing lands and creating petty peasant holdings. This might benefit a few, an infinitesimal proportion, but under the conditions of this Island which (as far as human intelligence and experience go) can only produce one article of general consumption in the world at the present time, viz., sugar, the great bulk of the population can only live by earning money as labourers and they could not live by the produce of their holdings, not even if every estate proprietor was dispossessed and the whole Island cut up and divided amongst them. Their only chance depends on a regular demand for employment, and when the supply exceeds the demand, and the lowest limit of life-supporting-wage has been reached. emigration in its proper sense, and not as a mere temporary quest after labour, is the true and only solution. As a diffusing centre of energy and vigorous intelligence Barbados is unsurpassed amongst its neighbours, and the further afield it can send its surplus workers and form fresh colonies of Barbadians the higher it will raise its name, and thus in fact, as well as in theory, maintain its title of the England of the West Indies.

Savings Bank.

34. The Barbados Saving Bank, which has been established since 1852, has proved a most successful institution and by its transactions shows the great use which the community make of it, six per cent. of a total population of 187,000, of which by far the greater proportion are agricultural labourers, being depositors.

35. The returns for the past five years show :—

Year.	Number of Depositors.	Amount at credit.	Deposits during the year.	Withdrawals during the year.	Invested Funds.
		£	£	£	£
1890 - -	9,716	134,521	106,229	100,773	138,906
1891 - -	9,936	123,284	89,565	94,293	128,840
1892 - -	10,420	130,419	80,000	80,013	136,778
1893 - -	10,944	152,924	101,042	82,196	159,924
1894 - -	11,322	157,969	93,810	92,974	165,158

36. The bank allows interest at three per cent., the maximum limit to deposits is 300*l.*, and the minimum is one shilling.

Friendly Societies.

37. There are 148 Friendly Societies, the objects of which are the usual ones in benefit of the members in sickness and of their families in death.

Ecclesiastical.

38. The cost of this establishment is unaltered, 10,352*l.*, in addition to Denominational grants, 50*l.* to the Roman Catholic, 400*l.* to the Moravian, and 700*l.* to the Wesleyan Churches.

A new church (St. Cyprian's) was opened in the Cathedral Parish, which is supported by voluntary contributions and served by the staff of the Cathedral.

Education.

39. The total expenditure under this Head amounted to 16,750*l.*, as against 16,980*l.* in 1893. There was an increase, however, in 1894 for elementary education of 396*l.*, although the number of schools was less by 12 than in the previous year The amount spent on elementary education in 1894 was 10,497*l.*

40. The average attendance of scholars was 15,962, out of a total on the rolls of 28,656, or very little more than 50 per cent. This falling off in attendance is however in a great measure to be attributed to the exceptional epidemics of dysentery and typhoid fever from which the Island suffered in the latter part of the year. (*See* Population and Vital Statistics.)

41. A Commission was appointed by the Governor, having the Bishop as its chairman, to inquire into and report on the important question of elementary education and especially with relation to its ever-increasing demands on the revenue of the Island. The report of the Commission has not yet been issued. The report of the Inspector of Schools shows a marked improvement in the result of the year's teaching in reading, dictation, and arithmetic, (especially the latter).

42. *Higher Grade Schools.*—There was an addition to the second-grade schools by the opening of the "Alexandra" school for girls in the parish of St. Peter, referred to in the last report. This school supplies a want which has long been felt, as the parish of St. Peter is some distance from the town, and the fact that there were 32 pupils at the school at the close of the year shows that it is appreciated. Miss M. S. Arnold, Undergraduate of London University, one of the Staff of the Queen's College, was appointed Head-mistress, and there are two assistant mistresses. The other second-grade schools, which are all for boys had about the same number of pupils in the aggregate as at the end of 1893.

43. Of the first-grade schools, there was a falling-off at the end of the year in the number of pupils as compared with 1893. Harrison College from 148 to 133; Queen's College from 150 to 140; while the attendance at the Lodge School rose from 48 to 56 at the end of the year. Codrington College had only 17 students at the end of the year.

44. The curriculum of the first-grade boys' schools extends from an average upper fifth-form standard to the level of university scholarship, and comprises Greek and Latin, English, French and Mathematics. History (Roman and Greek) and Scripture History and selections from the Greek Testament are also taught.

45. At Queen's College (Girls) the fifth-form do the work for the Senior Cambridge Examination and the fourth-form for the Junior Cambridge Examination. The curriculum includes Religious Knowledge, English in its subjects, French, German, Mathematics, Botany, Drawing, and Lectures on Chemistry. Lessons are also given in writing and needlework, also in singing and drilling.

46. The reports on the examinations of the higher schools furnish evidence that the high standard of the teaching has been well maintained and the results of the good teaching at Harrison College are apparent in the success of former pupils who have gone to the English Universities in obtaining scholarships and honours.

Imports and Exports.

47. The total Imports of the Colony during 1894 amounted to 1,279,335*l.*, of which 507,534*l.* came from the United Kingdom, 227,514*l.* from British Colonies, and 544,287*l.* from Foreign Countries.

48. A comparison with the previous four years 1890-93 shows:—

Year.	Total.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.
	£	£	£	£
1890 - - -	1,193,724	508,698	213,256	471,770
1891 - - -	1,067,617	432,637	207,186	427,794
1892 - - -	1,081,572	469,318	195,855	416,399
1893 - - -	1,372,537	583,086	254,404	535,047
1894 - - -	1,279,335	507,534	227,514	544,287
Average for four years, 1890–93 - -	1,178,862	498,435	217,675	462,752

The total imports for 1894, although 98,752*l.* below those of 1893, were considerably above the average for the previous four years.

In 1893 an alteration was made at the Customs Office in the method of valuing goods imported for statistical purposes, the charges for freight, &c., being added to the prime cost, which had been given in previous years. This accounts for the apparent sudden increase in values in 1893–94. While slightly disturbing the average for the period given above, this will in a few years rectify itself.

49. The falling-off in imports from the United Kingdom during 1894 compared with 1893 occurs in :—

	£
Raw material	24,044
Manufactured material	70,294
Bullion	631
	94,969
While there is an increase in :—	
Live-stock, foods, &c.	19,414
Or a net falling-off of	75,555

Under British Colonies there is a falling-off in :—

	£
Live-stock and foods, &c.	18,246
Raw material	2,692
Bullion	9,054
	29,992
While there is an increase in :—	
Manufactured material	4,237
Or a net falling-off of	25,755

Under Foreign countries there was an increase in :—

	£
Live stock and food	4,547
Manufactured material	9,032
	13,579
While there was a falling-off in :—	
Raw material	3,170
Giving a total increase of	10,409

50. These figures show that, while there was a total diminution of British trade to the amount of 101,310*l.*, there was an increase of 10,409*l.* in that with Foreign countries.

51. *Live Stock, &c.*—There were a total number of 3,534 oxen, sheep, and pigs, imported as against 3,654 in 1893. The oxen came principally from the Foreign West Indies, Porto Rico, &c., the sheep from the United States, and pigs (only a small number), from British North America.

There were 1,150 horses, asses, and mules imported as against 899 in 1893. Horses came principally from British North America, asses from Foreign West Indies, and mles from t he United States and Uruguay; those from the latter place being under the value of 12*l.* 10*s.* each.

52. *Food Stuffs.*—The total value of the principal articles of food consumption other than liquor and tobacco amounted in 1893 to 454,673*l*, and in 1894 to 428,403*l.*

Flour fell greatly in price from 1*l.* 11*s.* 7½*d.* per barrel in 1893 to 18s. per barrel in 1894 (freight included) and this import rose from 69,660 barrels in 1893, value 115,374*l.*, to 90,986 barrels, value 81,887*l.*, in 1894. There was to some extent a corresponding change in the value of biscuits and breadstuffs and a consequent rise in the quantity imported. The amounts imported were, in 1893, 4,747,724 lbs., value 28,506*l.*; in 1894, 6,225,924 lbs., value 34,243*l.*

The imports of bacon, beef, and pork show an increase for 1894 of 304,503 lbs., value 7,211*l.*; while there is a large falling-off in salt and pickled fish of nearly 10,000*l.*, showing a natural appreciation of our population for the better description of food when the price comes within their reach.

There was a large increase in corn and maize, principally for stock; owing to the prolonged drought, fodder of all sorts becoming very scarce in this year:—

1893.—6,266,434 lbs., value, 25,849*l.*
1894.—11,092,245 lbs., value, 44,369*l.*

Hay and Straw.

	£
1893	6,106
1894	8,666

53. Of Foodstuffs, *the United Kingdom* supplied us with the larger quantities of butter, salt, tea, cocoa (prepared).

The British Colonies, British North America, with fish (salted and pickled.)

British West Indies, sugar (muscovado), molasses, coffee, (a large quantity also came from the United States), cocoa (unground).

India, Rice.

Foreign Countries.—United States, bacon (in 1893 the larger proportion came from the United Kingdom), beef, pork, margarine, lard, cheese, biscuits, flour, corn-meal, corn and maize, grain, oats, hay and straw, sugar (crystalized and refined).

Foreign West Indies.—Sugar (vacuum pan), Coffee (the larger quantity from British West Indies).

54. *Liquors.*—The total value of Liquor imported was, in 1893, 27,702*l.*, in 1894, 30,677*l.*

There was an increase in quantities in Malt, Brandy, Whisky, (and Liqueurs), Wine in Wood, and a decrease in Gin and Wine in bottles.

The bulk of the imports of Liquor came from the United Kingdom.

55. *Tobacco.*—(All kinds.) Total quantity imported, the bulk being from the United States :—

1893. 209,571 lbs.; value 9,682*l.*
1894. 181,761 lbs.; value 9,125*l.*

Exports.

56. The total value of the exports from the Colony in 1894 was 984,512*l.*; of which 772,003*l.* were the produce or manufactures of the Island, and 212,509*l.* British, Foreign and other Colonial produce and manufactures.

57. A comparison of the five years from 1890 to 1894 inclusive shows :—

Year.	Produce or Manufactures of the Colony.	British, Foreign, &c.	Total.
	£	£	£
1890 - - -	1,040,720	163,670	1,204,390
1891 - - -	621,014	193,241	814,255
1892 - - -	751,924	174,649	926,573
1893 - - -	1,030,513	212,570	1,243,083
1894 - - -	772,003	212,509	984,512

I.

The Produce or Manufactures of the Island.

58. The principal, one might really say the sole, product of the Island is Sugar, with its resultants, Molasses and Rum.

The exports of Sugar for the years 1890 to 1894 were :—

Year.	Muscovado.	Dry.	Total.	Value.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	£
1890 - -	81,868	3,393	85,261	869,575
1891 - -	48,186	2,361	50,547	509,285
1892 - -	56,619	2,630	59,249	605,640
1893 - -	63,517	3,640	67,157	851,780
1894 - -	62,175	3,047	65,222	616,253

59. It may be of use to see the direction of this trade during the above period as shown by the shipments of sugar and molasses to the various markets of the world.

Sugar.

Year.	United Kingdom.		British Possessions and British North America.	
	Muscovado.	Dry.	Muscovado.	Dry.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1890 - -	6,967	3,342	3,000	Nil.
1891 - -	3,156	2,357	1,521	4
1892 - -	7,940	2,213	1,448	Nil.
1893 - -	5,057	3,510	1,682	29
1894 - -	7,110	3,054	4,879	2

(*continued.*)

Year.	United States.		Foreign Countries.		Export Value.
	Muscovado.	Dry.	Muscovado.	Dry.	Per Ton.
	Tons.	Tons	Tons.	Tons.	£ s. d.
1890 -	71,576	51	325	Nil.	10 0 0
1891 -	42,688	Nil.	22	Nil.	10 0 0
1892 -	47,220	417	110	Nil.	10 0 0
1893 -	56,092	97	341	Nil.	12 10 0
1894 -	50,125	Nil.	61	1	9 5 0

Molasses.

Year.	United Kingdom.	British Possessions and British North America.	United States.	Foreign Countries.	Export Value.
	Puns.	Puns.	Puns.	Puns.	Per Puncheon.
					£ s. d.
1890 -	830	43,622	5,351	1,513	3 0 0
1891 -	103	28,058	2,720	1,417	3 0 0
1892 -	291	35,353	6,572	752	3 0 0
1893 -	385	28,757	13,880	352	4 0 0
1894 -	1,619	34,125	7,649	165	3 5 0

60. The export in Rum has arisen from 95 gallons in 1890 to 12,962 gallons in 1894. A refinery was established in 1893 near Bridgetown. The rum is, however, manufactured mainly from imported molasses.

The Rum made in the island and exported in 1894 was distributed as follows :—

United Kingdom.	British West Indies.	British North America.	United States.	Foreign West Indies.	Total.
Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.
2,737	4,761	2,219	1,182	2,063	12,962

It is to be remarked that in 1893 only 26 gallons of rum were exported to the United Kingdom, and the sudden increase is no doubt to be attributed to the same cause as that to which the Chancellor of the Exchequer drew attention in his recent address on the Budget to the Imperial Parliament, when he remarks that the sudden increase in the imports of Rum into Great Britain was co-incident with the Influenza epidemics.

61. The other products of the Island were hides, value 556*l.*, British West Indies took 531*l.*; Ice, 444 tons, value 888*l.*, all to British West Indies; vegetables (raw) value 5,566*l.*, British Guiana alone took 4,885*l.* and the other British West Indies 473*l.*; whale-oil, 175 barrels, value 460*l.*, all to Great Britain.

II.

Exports other than the Produce of the Colony.

62. Barbados, from its position, has been always the natural centre for distributing commodities imported from abroad throughout the neighbouring West Indian Colonies, both English and Foreign. This advantage, however, is being gradually

neutralised by the rapid extension of the steamer traffic calling at many of the ports which were in former times dependent on communication by sailing vessels, and therefore, as importers in many of the Islands are now able to obtain direct delivery of their orders, whether large or small, there is less need to look to Barbados for their supplies.

63. A considerable trade, however, still remains in our hands, as will be seen by the following figures. The principal articles imported and subsequently exported from here are :—animals, articles of food and drink, clothing, &c., household requisites, hardware, lumber and building materials, grain and fodder, manures, &c., miscellaneous.

64. In 1894 these were distributed between British and Foreign West Indian Colonies as follows. It is right to point out, however, that these include one or two shipments to the United Kingdom, one to France, and to the United States. The total of these will not be found to appreciably affect the analysis of the trade.

Exports other than the Produce of the Colony.

	British West Indies.	Foreign West Indies.
	£	£
Animals	5,783	1,875
Provisions	76,365	22,490
Liquors	7,920	69
Tobacco	1,180	3
Clothing, &c.	29,220	1,163
Household Requisites (soap, candles, petroleum, matches).	2,545	129
Hardware	4,734	121
Lumber	6,570	716
Cement, lime and bricks	2,584	239
Grain and fodder	11,891	12,695
Manures	11,421	2,529
Miscellaneous	1,696	314
Bullion	3,548 (all but 600*l.* to United Kingdom.)	—
Whale-oil	—	4,709 (United States.)
	165,457	47,052
	Total - £212,509	

65. Analysing the whole trade of Barbados with other countries, the order in which they come, measured by the amount of business done in 1894, was as follows :—

Inward Trade. *Total Imports.*—1,279,334*l.*

	£	
United Kingdom	507,534	
United States America	469,510	
British North America	110,278	
British West Indies	77,888	(British Guiana, 25,511*l.*)
South America	47,971	
India	38,202	
Foreign West Indies	18,724	(Dutch Guiana, 1,492*l.*)
Various foreign (aggregate)	8,083	
Various British	1,144	

Outward Trade. *Total Exports.*—984,512*l.*

	£	
United States America	503,063	
British West Indies	165,658	(British Guiana, 41,526*l.*)
British North America	153,611	
United Kingdom	127,444	
Foreign West Indies	17,432	(Dutch Guiana, 7,982*l.*)
South America, (Brazil)	5,474	
Various foreign (aggregate)	208	
France	11,622	

66. Finally, taking the countries in the order of total business, both inward and outward, we have :—

Total.—2,263,846*l.*

	£
United States	972,573
United Kingdom	634,978
British North America	263,889
British West Indies	243,546
South America	53,445
India	38,202
Foreign West Indies	36,156
France	11,622
Various (aggregate)	9,435
	£2,263,846

Shipping.

67. The total number of vessels arriving and clearing and which did business with the Customs House, as distinguished from those merely calling and leaving, without discharging or taking in cargo, were :—

Entered.

Year.	Sailing vessels.		Steamers.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1893 - -	905	137,615	324	474,704	1,279	612,313
1894 - -	850	118,913	337	495,928	1,187	614,841

Cleared.

Year.	Sailing vessels.		Steamers.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1893 - -	905	136,663	324	475,085	1,229	611,748
1894 - -	852	121,477	337	496,094	1,189	617,571

Showing a total increase in tonnage and the gradual displacement of the sailing ship by the steamer.

Of the 850 sailing vessels (118,913 tons) which entered, 722 (with an aggregate of 71,275 tons) were British; and of the 128 foreign vessels (47,638 tons) 20 (6,661 tons) were from Great Britain.

Of the 337 steamers (495,928 tons), 123 (204,929 tons) came from Great Britain, and 149 (199,276 tons) came from British ports in North America or the West Indies.

68. The above figures are taken from statistics furnished by the Custom House, but, as they only deal with vessels doing cargo business with the Island, it is useful to see what the total number of vessels is which call here, whether bringing or taking away cargo, or merely for orders or "seeking"; this is obtained from the Harbour Master's returns, from which a five years' comparison is taken.

Year.	Total number of ships.	Tonnage.	Trading Steamers.	Tonnage.
1890 - -	2,475	1,177,169	432	571,989
1891 - -	2,089	1,061,789	352	572,780
1892 - -	2,040	1,076,956	411	597,511
1893 - -	2,079	1,034,890	386	538,195
1894 - -	1,808	910,669	403	562,266

69. These returns, when analysed, give the following numbers of vessels belonging to the several countries named. There are a few from other countries which are not noticed:—

Nationality.	1890.		1891.		1892.		1893.		1894.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British - - - -	1,656	759,135	1,367	658,645	1,338	681,281	1,402	722,635	1,264	675,258
American - - -	220	141,742	211	170,330	206	167,333	170	84,406	125	60,155
Norwegian - - -	311	148,955	261	131,538	283	131,961	256	125,325	205	87,531
Swedish - - - -	56	21,683	48	18,485	54	24,133	44	19,662	34	12,884
Italian - - - -	51	32,621	35	20,264	34	18,970	59	33,453	27	16,233
German - - - -	57	27,989	44	25,438	46	25,756	45	20,032	36	22,000
French - - - -	27	10,189	32	12,165	27	12,429	25	10,078	30	10,648
Dutch - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	28	3,466	31	3,598

These figures include vessels of *all* descriptions. The return shows a falling off in number and tonnage of vessels of all the above nationalities excepting Dutch, which gives a slight increase of 3 for 1894 over 1893.

70. The principal steamer lines calling regularly here are the Royal Mail, England to Jamaica and Colon, and the inter-island steamers. This port being the headquarters of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, and the rendezvous for this fortnightly service means that 130 of their steamers arrive and leave the port during the year, exclusive of cargo steamers, which may be put at 12 more, making a total of 50 steamers annually. The importance of this to the commercial community and to the many sections of the population, to whom money is distributed through a hundred channels, cannot be overestimated. The value of the Royal Mail alone to the port is not less than 18,000*l.* per annum.

The other principal lines are :—

From England (London) Scrutton (Direct Line) monthly.
From England (Liverpool) West India and Pacific, monthly.
From England (Liverpool) Harrison's, monthly.
From United States (New York) Quebec Steamship Company.
From Canada (Halifax) West India Steamship Line.

The fares (single) to England by Royal Mail are: 1st class, from 23*l.* to 32*l.* 2nd class, 18*l.* Average passage, 11 days.

Quebec Steamship Company to New York, United States: 1st class, 12*l.* 10*s.* to 13*l.* 10*s.* 10*d.* 3rd class, 6*l.* 5*s.* Passage through the West India Islands, 15 days; and direct, 9 days.

Quebec Steamship Company to Halifax, Nova Scotia: 1st class 10*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.*

Royal Mail to Trinidad, West Indies, 3*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*

Royal Mail to Demerara, 4*l.*

Royal Mail to Jamaica, 8*l.* 10*s.*

Royal Mail to Colon (connecting with Pacific routes) 9*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*

Gaols and Prisoners.

71. The total cost of the Prison in 1894 was 4,746*l.* 16*s.* 7*d.* as against 4,961*l.* 2*s.* 9*d.*, in 1893.

Year.	Adults.		Juveniles.		Total.	Daily Average.	Annual cost per head.
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.			
							£ s. d.
1893 -	1,681	1,794	43	18	3,536	370	13 8 2
1894 -	1,852	1,824	50	10	3,736	356	13 6 8

72. There were 1,122 punishments in 1894, as against 932 in 1893.

73. During 1894, 10 prisoners were released on ticket-of-leave under the mark system, which works satisfactorily.

Industrial Labour.

74. One of the principal industries of the prison is the cooperage, where hogsheads and puncheons are largely made and purchased for the export of Sugar and Molasses.

The price of a hogshead is 13*s.* 6½*d.*, and a puncheon 9*s.* 4½*d.* In 1894 the cooperage earned 71*l.* 18*s.* 9*d.* net profit, after deducting the cost of material, &c.

Cocoanut-fibre is made in the prison and sold for 23*l.* 10*s.* 10*d.*

	£	*s.*	*d.*
The estimated value of labour performed by male labour outside the prison, quarrying stone and building, was - - - -	597	10	8
Inside the prison, Tailor's Shop - - -	85	8	8
„ „ „ Blacksmith - - -	21	13	4
	704	12	8

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Female Labour, fibre-making - - -	45	15	7
„ „ Laundry - - -	152	0	0
	197	15	7

The prison bakery supplied 104,342 lbs. of bread to the prison, the lunatic asylum, and the leper asylum, at a total cost of 668*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.*, which, compared with the ordinary price of bread, effected a saving of 636*l.* 2*s.* 2*d.* in the year.

75. The health of the prison was good, 54 cases being treated in hospital; two deaths occurred.

Dodds Reformatory.

76. The number of boys in the Reformatory at "Dodds" on the 1st January 1894 was 119. The admissions during the year were 30, and 26 were discharged, leaving 123 inmates on the 31st December 1894.

The boys are principally employed in cultivating the land round the reformatory in experimental cane cultivation, under the superintendence of Mr. J. R. Bovell, F.L.S., who is also the curator of the botanical station. The different varieties of cane most suitable to the soil and climate of the Island are tested here with different manuring processes in order to ascertain the best return that can be obtained. These experiments are of great practical value to the planters and many avail themselves of the advantage to obtain plant canes from the Institution. A special

study of the sugar-cane fungus disease (*Trichosphæria Sacchari Mass.*) was made at the reformatory by Mr. Bovell, who also examined into the subject closely at Kew, with the director and his staff, during his absence on leave to England this year.

A report on the subject was issued by a Commission to investigate the question and the matter will form an item in the legislation of 1895.

77. The total cost of the reformatory for 1894, including salaries, was 1,757*l.* 7*s.* 4½*d.*, and the average cost per boy per annum was 14*l.* 14*s.* 3*d.* The discipline and management of this Institution leaves nothing to be desired, except that it would be a good thing for the island if it was capable of receiving a much larger number of boys. The only point which is not quite satisfactory is the difficulty in providing honest means of livelihood for the boys when they have completed their term of restraint and are discharged to find their own living. This point deserves more attention than has hitherto been given to it.

Hospitals and Poor Relief.

78. The relief of the suffering and destitute is a burden which the Colony has boldly faced and generously undertaken, and little remains to be done but to take care that the large contributions of the taxpayers to this object be guided into the proper channels of relief and that improvements in detail be effected whenever opportunity presents itself and funds allow.

79. The three Institutions which are supported either wholly or partly by the general revenue are :—

The general hospital, under a board of management.

The lunatic asylum, and the leper asylum, or lazaretto, each under a superintendent, subject to the control of the Governor in executive committee.

80. The other Institutions which are supported entirely by the local or parochial funds are the parish almshouses and dispensaries, which are under the board of guardians appointed by the vestries of each parish.

81. The average yearly expenditure on the three Government institutions is 14,170*l.* and of the parochial institutions 17,895*l.*, or a total of 32,065*l.*, representing an expediture of about 3*s.* 6*d.* per head on a population of 185,000, a very serious burden on any community.

82. The total cost of the general hospital in 1894 was 6,433*l.* The daily average number of inmates 221. The number of cases treated in the wards 3,393, 1,205 cases were admitted from the outlying parishes, cases cured 2,031, deaths 232 (6·8 per cent. of the cases treated). The number of out-patients treated was 20,729.

83. The cost of the lunatic asylum was 5,584*l.* The daily average number of inmates was 317. There is a steady increase

in the number of cases admitted to the lunatic asylum. The registers on 31st December show as follows :—

31st December,	1889, 274.	These include patients allowed to go on visits to their relations, though not discharged as cured.
„ „	1890, 281.	
„ „	1891, 317.	
„ „	1892, 347.	
„ „	1893, 341.	
„ „	1894, 361.	

84. The cost of the leper asylum was 2,783*l.* The daily average of inmates was 116, and the admissions for the year 22.

85. The total expenditure of the parochial authorities on poor relief amounted to 18,045*l.* which is divisible under the following heads : —

Medical staff, servants, and miscellaneous	7,478*l.*	11 parishes
Maintenance of inmates of almshouses	7,247*l.*	
Outdoor relief - - - -	3,320*l.*	
	£18,045	

The expenditure in the parish of St. Michael's almshouse is, of course, very much greater than in any other, the daily average of inmates in the almshouse being nearly 300, while that in St. Lucy does not exceed 30. The report of the Poor Law Inspector points to the satisfactory improvement in the management of the almshouses generally, and the establishment of ambulance apparatus in some of them. It were well if these were obtained by all and then much suffering in the transport of accident cases would be saved. The inspector unceasingly directs the attention of the parochial authorities to the necessity for avoiding the confusion between indiscriminate charity and the real relief of the destitute or suffering, and probably still more economy could be exercised in this respect. On the whole, the several Institutions are in a very satisfactory condition and are a credit to any Colony.

Meteorological.

86. The mean barometric pressure was 29·937 inches, the highest recorded being 30·014 inches in March and the lowest, 29·849 inches, in November.

The highest temperature was 88·4° Fahrenheit in September and the lowest 64°, in February.

Mean temperature for the year 79·9° with a mean range of 16·8°.

87. The year 1894 was phenomenal for the long periods of dry weather and the steady continuance of the South-east trade beyond its ordinary limit.

From the records of the observations which are very carefully taken at the botanical station at Dodds in the parish of St.

Philip, it is found that the total rainfall of the Island for the year was less than 40 inches and this was distributed over a total number of 143 days on which rain fell. So low a rainfall has not been experienced for several years. The minimun of rain fell in May, less than one inch (·73), the maximum in September, 11·46 inches.

The rainfall records for 1892 show 75·43 inches in 202 days, and for 1893, 58·10 inches in 193 days.

Before 1892 the returns are irregularly published in the Blue Book.

88. During the year 1894 a more complete system of getting meteorological returns was organized. Observations are now daily recorded at the Commercial Hall in Bridgetown, the Botanical Station at Dodds, and at the Light-house at Ragged Point, on the Eastern side where the wind and state of the sea are registered. These observations are collated and forwarded every month to the Hydrographical Department of the United States at Washington, which supplies the forms and makes use of the information in its monthly publications. From its position, to the East or Windward of the other West Indian Islands, Barbados would form an extremely valuable observing station, especially during the season when hurricanes may be expected. On the first intimation of the approach of a cyclone, its position and direction would be telegraphed through the Islands, and to the Hydrographical Office at Washington, which is in constant communication with its stations on the American Coast.

In 1893 the first intimation of three cyclones, two of which caused immense damage both on land and at sea, along the coasts of the Atlantic, was sent from the Leeward Islands and enabled timely warning to be given in front of the passage of the storm at other places along its course. It would be a wise thing if a system of observing stations were organised throughout all the Islands, ensuring uniformity in the time and method of observing; which is very important if the work is to be of practical value. The Government of Martinique has established a regular observing station and the Governor of that Colony suggested the establishment of a similar station here and the systematic interchange of information.

89. The subject of observing stations throughout the West Indian Islands appears to have been raised at one time, but appears to have been lost sight of, probably on the ground of the expense of fitting them up with the proper instruments (the cost of upkeep after the first outlay is trifling). When anyone considers what can be saved or lost by the foreknowledge of a hurricane, whether at sea or on land, there can be no doubt that expenditure in this direction may be a very good investment.

90. The fact that no cyclone of any importance has visited this Island since 1831 has, it is to be feared, filled the people with the false belief that we are situated outside the hurricane line, and no

doubt year after year we have heard of cyclones forming and passing to the north and west of us, but there is no real foundation for this theory and as a matter of fact, we are liable in any year to be visited with disaster from this source of danger. Indeed, in October of the year under report (1894), a cyclone passed to the south of this Island, but fortunately its area was as yet small and no very serious damage was done; the principal sufferers were the occupants of little wooden shanties, which were blown away; and the Legislature immediately voted a sum of 1,000*l.* for their relief. The Police Force acted admirably in collecting information, which enabled the parochial boards of guardians, to whom the distribution of the money was entrusted, to relieve promptly and judiciously. Experience has too often shown how money can be wasted in indiscriminate distributions in such cases, but in the present case the result was satisfactory.

Several of the fishing boats were blown away to sea, but most of them reached other Islands and very few lives were lost.

General.

91. The cane cultivation suffered severely from the drought, the effect of which will be acutely felt in the output for 1895. In many places the young canes were so dried up that they had to be dug up and the land left fallow until it could be replanted with provisions (sweet potatoes, &c.). These became very scarce during the drought, and the labouring classes would have suffered very much more had not the prices of flour and breadstuffs from the United States been lower than they had ever been before.

The canes, weakened by the want of rain, were more vigorously attacked by the "moth," "weevil," and "shot-borers," three distinct species of the cane-borers, while the fungus disease, about which there are differences of opinion even amongst the scientific world, which attacks the roots and stems of the cane, made rapid and fatal progress. The Director of the Royal Gardens at Kew (with whose assistance Mr. Bovell, Curator of the botanical station and superintendent of Dodds Reformatory, where agricultural experiments are being continually carried on, made a thorough investigation of the disease), gave the most emphatic advice that the Government should take early and energetic steps to cope with its rapid spread, and a Commission appointed for the purpose of recommending what remedial measures could best be adopted continued this work with the object of getting a bill dealing with the subject before the Legislature during the ensuing year.

92. Another effect of the drought was to greatly reduce the water supply in the rural districts, and this materially hastened the "water question" to its final culmination. (*See* remarks under "Legislation.")

93. Though the statistics for 1895, will undoubtedly show a very serious falling off in the trade of the Colony, due to the

temporary check caused by the short crop of 1894, there is no reason to fear for the progress of the island or of its sound position in the financial world. Economy and prudence will be necessary in dealing with public as well as private concerns, but no reasonable opportunity of effecting improvement in any direction should be avoided or overlooked because there is for the moment a strain on resources which in the case of this island have always proved equal to an emergency.

G. RUTHVEN LE HUNTE,
Colonial Secretary.

Barbados, May 31, 1895.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 123.

BASUTOLAND.

ANNUAL REPORTS FOR 1893-94.

(For Reports for 1892–93, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 89.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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1895.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
87	Falkland Islands	1892
88	Gold Coast	,,
89	Basutoland	1892–93
90	Ceylon	1892
91	Zululand	,,
92	Mauritius	,,
93	Labuan	,,
94	British Honduras	,,
95	Lagos	,,
96	Sierra Leone	,,
97	Fiji	,,
98	Rodrigues	,,
99	St. Helena	,,
100	British Bechuanaland	1892–93
101	British Guiana	,,
102	Newfoundland	1892
103	Jamaica	1892–93
104	Victoria	1892
105	Bermuda	1893
106	Gambia	,,
107	Hong Kong	,,
108	St. Vincent	,,
109	Gibraltar	,,
110	Bahamas	,,
111	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
112	Leeward Islands	,,
113	Barbados	,,
114	Malta	,,
115	Zululand	,,
116	British Honduras	,,
117	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
118	Falkland Islands	,,
119	Rodrigues	,,
120	Mauritius	,,
121	Straits Settlements	,,
122	Labuan	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 123.

BASUTOLAND.

[For Report for 1892–93, *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 89.]

Sir W. G. CAMERON to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House, Cape Town,
MY LORD MARQUESS, September 1, 1894.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a despatch from the Acting Resident Commissioner of Basutoland, enclosing the Annual Reports on the Territory for the year to 30th June last.

These reports require little comment from me. There have been the usual proportion of disputes between minor chiefs, which have been satisfactorily settled by Mr. Lagden and his officers, to whom credit is due for their efforts in every branch of the administration. On the difficulties which have arisen between the Paramount Chief and his brother Maama I have addressed your Lordship in separate despatches.

I desire, however, to express to your Lordship my appreciation of the loyal co-operation afforded by the Government and officers of the Orange Free State in the suppression of the illicit liquor traffic, and I would be glad to receive an expression of your Lordship's acknowledgments for communication to his Honour the State President.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. G. CAMERON, General,
Administrator and High Commissioner.

Resident Commissioner's Office,
SIR, Basutoland, August 8, 1894.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency a report upon British Basutoland for the year ended 30th June 1894, covering copies of report by the Acting Government Secretary, enclosing those of the Assistant Commissioners and Medical Officers in duplicate.

BASUTOLAND. 1893–94.

2. In my last Annual Report I alluded to the character displayed by Lerothodi since his assumption of the office of Paramount Chief, of some of the difficulties that beset him, and of his partiality for drink. In tracing the features of the past twelve months, I am glad to begin by stating that Lerothodi has, to the best of my belief, made a powerful effort to eschew liquor himself and to co-operate in checking and punishing the introduction of it. He has at times been tempted by others to give way, but the occasions have been comparatively few.

He has had again to contend with considerable opposition from a large section of younger brothers, led by Masupha, whose aim may have been to wean themselves from the Paramount Chief's authority and clutch at independence. But there is nothing extraordinary in such aspirations. It is quite natural that the Chiefs of a present generation should aspire to assert themselves, in view of the fact that a younger generation of the Paramount House are coming on who might be expected in time to endeavour to supersede their elders in the same way that the sons of Letsie supplanted the sons of Moshesh.

Throughout the year there has been a running vein of unrest pervaded by this idea, the object of Lerothodi being possibly to circumscribe the rights of his juniors and of his juniors to establish themselves more firmly. A petition, in July 1893, addressed to Sir M. Clarke for transmission to the High Commissioner, setting forth the grievances of the younger sons against Lerothodi, signed by many of them, as well as by Masupha, was illustrative of the general drift of feeling at that time. The Chief Jonathan Molapo, whose powerful influence for good can be usefully exerted, holds aloof to a great extent from tribal affairs and assumes a *laissez faire* attitude.

3. The first political event of consequence was the renewal of a dispute of some years' standing, relative to a reed-bed and other rights adjacent to Masupha's village at Thaba Bosigo. The land in dispute came originally within the rights given to Theko, third son of Letsie; but by tacit consent Masupha had for years exercised chieftainship over this land and sought to make it perpetual in the interests of his own children. To this Theko objected, being supported by Lerothodi and the elder branch of the family, while Masupha enlisted the sympathy of Maama and some of the younger sons. A good deal of unnecessary clamour was raised over it, guns were taken up, and the Paramount Chief compromised the situation by prematurely announcing a decision without hearing the parties who had appealed to him. Simultaneously, Masupha cut and seized the reeds in a demonstrative manner. The matter was then deposited in my hands, whereupon I dismissed those under arms and summoned a Pitso of parties concerned, together with other Chiefs and Councillors. My object was, by family deliberation to induce a mutual settlement. This was successful. Theko publicly agreed to let Masupha continue during lifetime the rights

he had been tacitly allowed to exercise, without prejudice to his (Theko's) proprietary rights.

4. Following upon the settlement of the preceding matter, there ensued several months of continuous friction between the Paramount Chief Lerothodi and Maama regarding land questions where their respective tenements lay contiguous to each other.

At a Pitso of the nation held by Sir M. Clarke in June 1893, it was decided that a certain locality known as Korokoro pertained to the chair of the Paramount Chief and that any rights acquired by Maama within this locality during Letsie's lifetime were only tenant rights. Korokoro was, however, the name of a stream as well as of a tract of country. The expression was ambiguous and disputes arose as to the definition of its area. People living adjacent were employed as tools to foment quarrels, and eventually an acute stage was reached about new year, feelings running high between the adherents of the respective parties. At this juncture, Lerothodi complained strongly of violations by Maama of a recognised boundary in the mountains, and he begged me to send an officer with him to inspect it and verify the complaint. I did so; but a body of armed men provided by Bereng, with Lerothodi's knowledge, followed the inspecting party surreptitiously, and upon their presence at the rear of Maama becoming known to that Chief he hurriedly flew to arms and prepared for attack. Lerothodi thereupon charged Maama

(1.) With arming to resist him;
(2.) With refusing to obey summons to the Paramount Chief's court.
(3.) With violating the mountain boundary.

Meanwhile, both chiefs recruited their followings, who rallied under arms in close proximity to each other, and it was feared that at any moment a large section of the nation would have been convulsed in civil war. Cattle were captured on both sides and recriminations followed, though no blood was spilt. I had previously admonished Maama for non-obedience to the Paramount Chief's summons, and he had replied that he feared to face his brother's court while it was armed. I then offered to lead him to the court, whereupon he went and submitted himself as directed. This was the course I had worked for. Lerothodi then sent to me to say that, there being considerable forces in the field beyond control, he appealed to me to take matters over as they were "too heavy" for him. I accepted the appeal and proceeded to dismiss the people to their homes. Subsequently I summoned a Pitso of all the principal people in the nation to meet in Council.

In finally dealing with the matter after three days' exhaustive evidence, I adjudged that:—

(1.) Although Maama behaved in a contumacious and irritable manner in not responding quietly to the Paramount Chief's summons, he eventually went and the Paramount

Chief should have made allowance for contumacy characteristic of the tribe in such cases.

(2.) That the violation of the mountain boundary by Maama had been, according to the evidence before me, condoned if not sanctioned, by Lerothodi when, perhaps, under the influence of drink.

(3.) That the initial taking up of arms by Maama was conduced by Lerothodi's own action in conniving at the secret expedition by Bereng's armed contingent; and, as I regarded this appeal to arms in so serious a light and so liable to bring the whole nation into trouble and contempt, I imposed a nominal fine of twenty head of cattle upon the Paramount Chief for having led the way without authority, and a fine of fifteen cattle upon Maama as being culpable in a less degree. These fines were immediately paid.

As it may appear unusual to have subjected the Paramount Chief to such a punishment, I must observe that he had, acting upon bad advice, injudiciously placed himself in court through personal conflicts with his junior. I had supported him firmly in all lawful ways, but could not do so in doubtful action calculated to lead to civil war. It would have been easy to let him go at Maama, but it was hard to see where this would end and the remedy, without strong justification and cautious administration, might have been worse than the disease. If the warnings of Her Majesty's Government for a series of years to the nation to avoid unauthorised appeals to arms but to seek settlements in Courts had any meaning, I was bound to emphasize, in the case of the Paramount Chief, the danger of his setting a fatal example, more especially as he had sought to draw the Government covertly to his side in a course that it had perpetually condemned, which, had it succeeded, may have stultified our policy and hazarded our *bonâ fides* in sanctioning violence, as premature as unnecessary, while matters were *sub judice*. Though condemning Maama's irritating and contumacious attitude, and believing that it contributed mainly to the disturbance and may yet require summary treatment, I could not approve Lerothodi's method of action.

5. Presumably, one of the things we should lay ourselves out to do in time is to teach the chiefs in whom we repose confidence that their words should be worthy of trust, more particularly in the case of the Paramount Chief. He is in many respects a good and strong man and has much in his character to command respect, though impulsive and liable to be led by certain indiscreet councillors who have displaced Letsie's old courtiers. But since the custom of "eating up" indiscriminately has been eradicated, the Paramount Chief has felt the loss of power it gave and has depended entirely upon Government to support him in dealing with tribal cases of a troublesome nature.

Government has of late years, therefore, been concerned, in the interests of peace and national order, to treat considerably more

of tribal matters, and been compelled to assume greater responsibilities, though the rule is invariably to make every possible effort at domestic settlement before our intervention or acceptance of appeals. Domestic quarrels must, of course, be expected in every tribe and family.

6. Several tribal disputes other than those above mentioned, affecting chieftainship and land, were adjusted by Government officers during the year. Though intertribal violence was occasionally threatened, no casualty actually occurred.

7. A good deal of friction arose in Quthing District, owing principally to a section of minor chiefs cherishing an idea that the district was entirely reserved for the old loyals and original residents, and refusing to assist in finding room for the rising generation in the country to live upon, or to recognise the authority of the Chief N'Kwebe, a son of Letsie, appointed in 1884 as the responsible Native head of the district. The land question in Basutoland, as elsewhere, is absorbing. The population is growing and the land available for cultivation is incommensurate with the natural expansion. This and other matters at Quthing regarding the Government reserve were dealt with by myself and the Paramount Chief, after careful deliberation, upon bases that appeared most practicable and upon lines of continuous policy.

8. There is no questionable doubt that Basutoland of to-day is conspicuous for the absence of "smelling out," witchcraft, and similar barbarous institutions. There is a visible inclination to divorce most of the savage customs characteristic of the Kaffir, and if no material progress can be indicated in detail in any single year there are fair tokens of it in the demands for technical education and the desire to be law-abiding.

The Basuto may be credited with superior and developing intelligence, industrious habits, and eagerness to guard themselves against causes of complaint on the part of neighbouring States. Guidance and encouragement at this stage appear to me more necessary than ever, perhaps.

It may be borne in mind that the male population performs all the hard work of ploughing, weeding, and harvesting the enormous area under cultivation, that a good number are engaged in technical work in the country, several hundreds are employed on roads and other public works, in addition to which some 20,000 obtained passes to labour in foreign territories.

9. In February last, I proceeded to Cape Town, in charge of the Paramount Chief Lerothodi, upon a visit of courtesy at the invitation of his Excellency the High Commissioner. When all was arranged to start, Lerothodi informed me that he had been warned by many tha it would be unsafe for him to respond to the High Commissioner's invitation, as it was contemplated to transport him to Robben Island. I overcame his doubts upon the subject after some little difficulty, and he expressed his determination to rely

rather upon the word of Government than the fears of his people. Several influential chiefs and representatives accompanied him, and the party were much impressed with the sights Sir Henry Loch had been good enough to provide for them.

Their conduct during the whole journey through the Orange Free State and Cape Colony was most exemplary. We were much indebted to those Governments for facilitating the transport of the large party.

10. I am glad to say that the liquor traffic has considerably abated. Thanks to the co-operation of neighbouring landdrosts, several gangs of smugglers and canteen keepers on the border have been suppressed, and our police, who patrolled 23,680 miles, have, under guidance of the Assistant Commissioners, succeeded in bringing many persons engaged in illicit trade to justice. We found it necessary to establish fixed camps occasionally at notorious centres. Local chiefs lent a ready hand to the police, and their missions were successful. There is a class of "poor whites" living adjacent to our border who eke out a precarious living by liquor and gun-running. They have no land and little property, and in many cases act as the mediums of stock thieving, on both sides, for which the Basuto are often blamed.

11. Trade generally has been indifferent. The closing of the big consuming markets to Basutoland cereals resulted in accumulation of heavy grain stocks, which, until they circulate, militate against mercantile exchange.

Proposals on the part of the Orange Free State to tax our grain in transit through that territory, though contrary to the provisions of the Customs Convention, caused alarm amongst the trading community.

It does not appear to be understood that the grain in Basutoland is purchased by traders who are entirely supported by leading firms of merchants resident in the Orange Free State and Cape Colony in exchange for merchandise, the manufacture of Great Britain, imported from these territories through Cape ports. Any attempt, therefore, to boycott Basutoland grain must re-act against the said merchants. The Basuto do not export grain at all nor do they hoard money, but expend the value of their grain immediately upon imported goods.

It may be further stated that Free State subjects do a thriving business, amongst other things, in riding transport from Basutoland, bartering lime, salt and other commodities, and in cattle dealing largely, all under free licences. These are reciprocal advantages, which those who would stifle our grain trade should take into account as factors in the question affecting the interests of their own countrymen.

12. The late crops promised remarkably well, but wheat alone reached an average. Mealies and kaffir corn were retarded by too continuous rains and then fell a prey to early frost. Through the enterprise of Mr. Kennan, Assistant Commissioner, Mafeteng,

and an energetic committee of traders in that district, a most successful agricultural show, the first in Basutoland, was held in May last. The list of exhibits comprised wheat and mealies of sorts, kaffir corn, forage, potatoes, pony stallions, mares, riding horses, draught oxen, cows, and wool. The show was encouraged by Government and is calculated to improve class of grain as well as quality of stock.

13. Several applications for mining concessions by speculators have again been made and refused. The Paramount Chief signified, on behalf of himself and the nation, the desire that none be granted.

14. Statistics show a decrease of crime in the country, though a slight increase of homicide cases arising from quarrels at "feasts." But such cases are immediately reported and tried in our courts.

In the suppression of crime and bringing of criminals to justice, the chiefs have continued to behave well. It is worthy of record, again, that every head of stolen stock actually traced into Basutoland has been recovered and the thieves brought to justice.

15. A substantial increase in the volume of exports and an increase in the value of imports is recorded. In addition to the 199,283 bags of grain exported, it may be noted that a large quantity is traded direct for goods at stores within the Orange Free State border. This is believed to represent considerable value and affects to some extent the volume of imports and exports, though, as it is a daily retail trade, no account is taken of it.

16. Hospital work has been well maintained under the various medical officers, whose returns show 31,115 attendances. It has been decided to impose a small charge in future as a contribution towards the heavy cost of medicines. This may decrease the attendances next year, but is calculated to promote greater efficiency.

Although the health of the country has been good, an epidemic of small-pox broke out in Leribe district. It was introduced by certain natives under treatment at an Orange Free State lazaretto who broke quarantine and propagated the disease amongst several villages in Basutoland before they were intercepted. Immediate steps were then taken to isolate the patients and enforce strict quarantine of affected areas, and certain headmen who concealed the facts for a few days were afterwards made to contribute towards cost of blankets and clothing destroyed by Government under the process of disinfection. By these measures, the disease was checked and prevented from spreading. Vaccination is being largely carried on. There is little or no prejudice against it.

The medical officers are of opinion that the ratio of syphilis to the population is steadily decreasing, and that it and kindred diseases are readily yielding to the treatment afforded in this

territory. An exhaustive report upon leprosy in Basutoland is in course of preparation, the history of each separate case being carefully recorded. This will enable us to ascertain the extent of the disease in the country and will, it is hoped, form a valuable contribution to the investigations now being carried on in South Africa, at the instance of the Cape Government, to whom a copy of the report will be furnished.

17. Extension of the telegraph system to Mafeteng gives us another link with the outer world and facilitates territorial communications.

18. Efforts made last year to limit within reasonable bounds the period of collection of Hut Tax were so far successful that within two months from beginning the bulk of the Tax was paid in.

19. The missionaries of various denominations continue to carry on with success their useful and meritorious work of education. Government encourages in all possible ways the teaching of trades and industrial work, and Basuto boys fairly proficient are to be found at work in many parts.

The French Protestant Society sustained a heavy loss in the death of the Rev. A. Mabille, who for thirty years laboured indefatigably to improve the minds and morals of the people. He introduced a printing press at Morija and educated many to manipulate in English, Dutch, and Sesuto. He was also the author of the Bible in Sesuto, together with other valuable books of an educational nature which bring the Sesuto language within comparatively easy reach.

A separate report on education will be transmitted.

20. I beg again to draw attention to the reports in detail of the Acting Government Secretary and other officers of the administration whose services continue to be effective and valuable.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. Y. LAGDEN,
Acting Resident Commissioner.

Resident Commissioner's Office,
Basutoland, August 7, 1894.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit the accompanying district reports on Basutoland for the year ended 30th June 1894, viz.:—

Assistant Commissioner, Leribe.
Do. Berea.
Do. Maseru.
Do. Mafeteng.

Assistant Commissioner, Mohale's Hoek.
Do. Quthing.
Officer in charge, Qachas Nek.
The Principal Medical Officer.
Medical Officer, Maseru.
Do. Leribe.
Do. Mafeteng.
Do. Mohalies Hoek.

From a comparison with the statistics of the previous year, it will be seen that there has been a general advancement in the country.

During the past year, there has been a certain amount of stagnation in trade, owing to the lack of markets for the disposal of the large stocks of grain held by our traders at the close of the previous year, grain being the largest purchasing power of this country.

This territory suffers to a great extent by the prohibitive tariff levied by the South African Republic upon Colonial and Basutoland grain and produce.

From the attached return, the quantity of grain exported shows a remarkable increase over that of the previous year. The total local value of exports was 103,608*l.* for the calendar year 1893. This, however, does not represent the whole of the exports of the country, as quantities of grain and other produce are taken across the border to the various Free State towns and shops by the natives and by hawkers, mostly Free State subjects, of which it is impossible to obtain returns. This trade, I think, I should be within the mark in estimating at about 15,000*l.*

Imports for the calendar year 1893 amounted to 98,000*l.*

The last crops of wheat were fair, but those of mealies and Kaffir corn were very poor, having been to a great extent retarded in their growth by excessive rainfall, and finally destroyed by early frosts.

Efforts have of late years been made by the Government and some of the principal traders to improve the quality of the wheat produced in the country by the distribution of seed, and the efforts are already showing favourable results. With the same object in view an agricultural show was held in May at Mafeteng, towards which the Government granted a contribution. This show was sufficiently successful to encourage a repetition next season, and hopes are entertained that this step may prove an incentive to improvement amongst the native agriculturalists and stock-owners.

An Arab stallion was imported last year by Government for stud purposes; there are now two of these horses in the country.

The fears entertained last year of a locust plague were, happily, not realised.

BASUTOLAND. 1893–94.

Average local prices for Basutoland produce rule as follows:—

Mealies, per bag, 5*s.*
Wheat, per bag, 8*s.*
Kaffir corn, per bag, 13*s.*
Cattle, 4*l.*
Horses, 8*l.*
Sheep, 10*s.*
Goats, 6*s.*
Wool, 3*d.* per lb.
Mohair, 4*d.* per lb.

The general revenue of the territory shows a gratifying increase over that of 1892–93, principally under the head of Hut Tax and Ferry Tolls. This latter is nearly double the receipts of the previous year, owing to continuous floods. An effort was made to curtail the period occupied in the collection of Hut Tax, with the result that a labour that has hitherto absorbed an undue proportion of the time of the staff was, during the past year, through the energy displayed by officers and the loyal co-operation of chiefs, practically completed in two months in most districts. I regret, however, to have to report that the Berea district was again notorious by the delay and lack of energy displayed by the principal Chief, and it was not until within a few days of the close of the year that payments were completed. In the Leribe district also some unnecessary delay occurred, which was explained as due to misunderstanding. The amount of arrear tax collected amounts to 1,882*l.*, but these arrears are bound to accrue, and vary from year to year according to the number of tax-payers absent at labour when it becomes due. Tax was paid on 40,629 huts.

The tabulated return of lost stock reported at the various district offices shows that theft from neighbouring States is at a minimum. In every case in which stock has been traced into Basutoland it has been recovered and restored. The chiefs and headmen have rendered valuable assistance in this work.

The criminal return shows a marked decrease as compared with the previous year. With the exception of a slight increase in the number of cases of homicide, there is a striking absence of serious crime, and a very satisfactory decrease in the number of convictions for brandy smuggling. Most of the homicide cases arose through drunken quarrels at village beer-drinks.

You will notice from the district reports that the smuggling of brandy, to the serious increase of which attention was called in my last report, has considerably decreased of late. The hearty co-operation of the Orange Free State authorities has contributed to this happy effect, though the constant patrolling of the border by our police has proved a great check to the traffic. Many of the illicit sellers have, through the instrumentality of our police, been prosecuted in the Free State Courts and convicted. Considerable annoyance has been caused on the fenced portion of the border by the frequent cutting of the wire opposite these

canteens. One chief has during the year rendered active assistance in suppressing smuggling.

During the past year, 52,207 persons obtained passes to leave Basutoland, of whom 20,000 were in search of labour. These labourers are a source of considerable income to Basutoland:

The strength of the Police Force is—

Officers	11
European constables	10
Native non-commissioned officers	16
Native privates	197

The men are all well mounted and their efficiency and conduct is good. From the appended return, it will be seen that the force has been engaged in 642 patrols during which the men so employed travelled a distance of 23,680 miles and made 146 arrests.

During the year, all Government-aided schools have been visited by Government officers who report satisfactory progress. There were in all 135 schools, having 6,937 scholars upon the rolls, the Government grants in aid amounting to 3,680*l*.

A considerable number of useful public works have been carried out during the past year, including many repairs and additions to public buildings. Telegraph extension from Wepener to Mafeteng New Gaol at Butha Buthe, Post office at Mafeteng, and 11 miles 5 furlongs of border fencing. There is now only a short section of the Free State border between Caledon river and Cornet Spruit unfenced. Considerable sums have also been spent on ponts and the purchase of new boats. The roads of the country have entailed a very heavy outlay owing to excessive rainfall, but they are now in good repair.

I am glad to report that the Chiefs and people are being gradually brought to see the necessity of taking active measures for the extirpation of burrweed, and considerable progress has been made in several districts towards this end. All Government road parties are ordered to destroy it along the wagon roads.

The Customs work continues to be satisfactorily carried out. The amount of revenue realised for the twelve months ending 31st March which was brought to account during the past year is considerably in excess of that for the corresponding period in the previous year.

The epidemic of small-pox now prevalent in so many parts of South Africa appeared in the Leribe district during the early part of the year, whither it was introduced by a native returned from the Transvaal. The disease was of a mild type, and, though a number of individuals were infected, only 20 deaths took place. The epidemic is now almost stamped out, owing to prompt and energetic steps taken by the medical staff and district officers to enforce and maintain a strict quarantine, and to carry out disinfection.

The possibility of a reintroduction of the disease by labourers returning from infected areas is an ever-present danger. On the whole, the public health has been excellent.

The working of the Government dispensaries has been reorganised and placed upon a more satisfactory working basis.

With a view to making these dispensaries in a measure self-supporting, and in consequence of the heavy increasing outlay on drugs, it has been decided to institute a small charge for medicines supplied to out patients. This will no doubt considerably diminish the number of attendances at first, but will, on the other hand, increase the efficiency.

Vaccination has been actively carried on by Government officers and missionaries as well as by the Medical Department.

The reports of the medical officers herewith enclosed deal fully with their work.

I attach the following returns, viz. :—

Return of Revenue.
Return of Patrols.
Return of Licences.
Return of Passes.
Return of lost and stolen stock.
Return of Exports.
Return of Civil and Criminal Cases.
Educational Return.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. ENRAGHT MOONY,
Acting Government Secretary.

His Honour the Acting Resident Commissioner,
Basutoland.

Return of Revenue in detail for the year ended June 30, 1894.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Hut tax - - - - - - -	21,579 0 6
Post Office - - - - - -	1,032 3 3
Licences - - - - - - -	2,695 15 4
Fees of Court or Office - - - - -	82 19 0
Miscellaneous receipts - - - - -	276 12 6
	£25,666 10 7

Return of Patrols performed by Basutoland Police during the year ended June 30, 1894.

Number of Patrols performed.	Number of Men engaged.	Estimated Distance patrolled by collective patrols.	Number of arrests for contravention of Liquor and Pass Regulations.
642	1,746	23,681 miles	Liquor Regulations - 43 Pass do. - 58 Other Offences - 45 Total arrests - 146

Schedule of Number of Licences issued in the various districts of Basutoland during the year ended June 30, 1894.

General Traders.	Hawkers.	Free Hawkers.	Mill Dam Licences.
133	49	40	2

Return of Number of Passes issued to Natives leaving Basutoland during the year ended June 30, 1894.

Number of Natives who obtained Passes to seek work.	Number of Natives who obtained Passes for other purposes.	Total number of Natives who obtained Passes.
20,000	32,207	52,207

Schedule of Lost Stock reported at the various district offices in Basutoland during the year ended June 30, 1894.

Description.	Reported lost.	Traced into Basutoland.	Not traced into Basutoland.	Recovered in Basutoland.	Remarks.
Horses - -	95	19	76	19	Twelve reported as recovered in Orange Free State and Cape Colony.
Cattle - -	87	52	35	52	Eight reported as recovered in Orange Free State.
Sheep - -	369	54	315	54	

Return of Exports from Basutoland during the year ended 31st December 1893.

Description.	Grain.		Meal.		Wool and Mohair.		Live Stock.				Other Exports.	Totals.
							Cattle.		Horses.			
	No. of Bags (203 lb.)	Value.	No. of Bags.	Value.	Weight.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	Value.	
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Wheat	128,740	63,416 11 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	63,416 11 0
Mealies	65,779	17,452 9 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	17,452 9 0
Kaffir Corn	4,764	1,942 19 2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,942 19 2
Meal	—	—	2,843	2,038 2 6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,038 2 6
Wool	—	—	—	—	972,505	14,355 11 0	—	—	—	—	—	14,355 11 0
Mohair	—	—	—	—	30,460	792 8 6	—	—	—	—	—	792 8 6
Cattle	—	—	—	—	—	—	715	2,061 11 6	—	—	—	2,061 11 0
Horses	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	220	972 10 0	—	972 10 0
Other Exports	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	575 18 4	575 18 4
Totals	199,283	82,811 19 2	2,843	2,038 2 6	1,002,965	15,147 19 6	715	2,061 11 0	220	972 10 0	575 18 4	103,608 0 6

Return of Civil and Criminal Cases heard in the various Assistant Commissioners' Courts in Basutoland during the year ended June 30, 1894.

Civil actions	26
Arson	2
Assault	14
Customs regulations, Breach of	9
Contempt of Court	4
Embezzlement	1
Fraud	1
Firearm regulations, Breach of	10
House and shop breaking	2
Homicide	12
Liquor regulations, Breach of	53
Lord's Day Ordinance do.	2
Pass regulations, Breach of	59
Prison discipline, Breach of / Gaol breaking	2
Perjury	1
Resisting police	10
Rape	1
Theft	53
Trading regulations, Breach of	6
Undefined	17
Total	259

Educational Return for the year ended June 30, 1894.

Total number of schools	137
Total number of scholars on Rolls	6,937
Mean average attendance	4,403
Total grants in aid	£3,680

LERIBE.

Annual Report for the Year ended 30*th June* 1894.

The past year has not been marked by any events of exceptional political importance within this district.

The disputes between the Paramount Chief and the younger sons of Letsie, headed by Maama, have naturally been closely watched by the chiefs and people in Leribe, and, so far as it has been possible to discover the tendency of opinion, Jonathan and his following may be said to be in support of Lerotholi, while Joel appears to sympathise with Maama.

BASUTOLAND. 1893–94.

There are several matters in dispute between the chiefs within the district but none of these disagreements have assumed an acute form during the past year. It would be well if there were a clearly defined line between the grounds of the Chief Jonathan and Peeta Ramanella in the neighbourhood of Dipetung. The reported intention of Peeta to place his son Mitchell at Ramanella's old village at Kueneng and to plough the pasture lands on Kueneng mountain has also occasioned some uneasiness and may be opposed by Seshope Ramanella, who would probably be supported by Jonathan.

The position of affairs between Jonathan and Joel, though it has lately improved, cannot be called satisfactory. These chiefs appear to mutually disregard and distrust the decisions of each other, and it has, therefore, been necessary for me to intervene in several purely native cases affecting them, which otherwise would not have come into my court.

The presence in the district of Motsuene Joseph Molapo, his character, and his claims to chieftainship, based upon his being the child of Motapo's eldest son and Litsie's eldest daughter, are factors that have to be reckoned with in forming a forecast as to the future course of events. He has at present several minor complaints as to his treatment by Jonathan, under cover of which he appears to intend to advance his claim to larger chieftainship, for which he is utterly unfitted.

The death of the Chief Matela in February, which is alluded to in Mr. Boxwell's report, has been followed by a more direct supervision of affairs in that portion of the district by Jonathan, which so far has had the effect of increasing the amount of hut-tax paid by Matela's people. Matela had for some time past been in a somewhat feeble condition.

The Chief Jonathan accompanied the Paramount Chief on a visit paid to His Excellency the High Commissioner in March.

The Revenue for the past year is as follows :—

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.		
	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	5,059	10	0
Licences	335	0	3
Fines	133	11	6
Ferry tolls	23	14	6
Fees	5	12	0
Miscellaneous	19	19	0
	£5,577	7	3

The number of huts on which hut tax has been paid is 9,170
The amount of arrear hut tax collected is 624*l.* 10*s.* 0*d.*

With reference to above return, the increase in hut tax is principally at Matela's, where probably the largest proportion of arrears has also been paid.

The licences issued during the year are :—

General traders	32
Hawkers (paid)	14
Hawkers (free)	2
Grain passes	9

There is a slight falling off in the number of traders' licences. I have declined to recommend several applications for new licences, as there does not appear at present to exist any public need for more shops. Owing to late and continuous rains and early frosts, the crops of mealies and Kaffir corn, which had promised well, did not, probably, give an average yield.

The current prices for produce are :—

Wheat, 12*s.* 6*d.* per muid.
Mealies, 6*s.* per muid.
Kaffir corn, 10*s.* per muid.
Forage, 15*s.* per 100 bundles.
Cattle, 2*l.* to 6*l.* each.
Sheep, 10*s.* to 15*s.* each.

The police in the district consist of two sub-inspectors, two European constables, two native officers and 52 native police. They are constantly occupied in patrolling the border and in other duties.

The following is a return of patrols performed :—

Number of patrols, 201.
Number of men engaged, 472.
Estimated distance travelled by collective patrols, 5,874 miles.

Number of arrests for :—

(*a.*) Contravening Liquor Laws	10
(*b.*) Contravening Pass Laws	46
(*c.*) Other offences	3

Two horses and two oxen were brought in by patrols.

The Free State authorities and police co-operate in suppression of illicit liquor traffic and other border irregularities. A certain amount of brandy smuggling undoubtedly takes place from time to time, but, owing to the enforcement of the excellent Free State liquor law by the local authorities, this evil does not exist to any serious extent.

I have found, as a rule, little difficulty in the administration of justice in such civil and criminal cases as have come before my court.

The cases adjudicated upon at Ihlotsi Heights during the past twelve months are :—

Civil cases	13
Theft	14
Assault	7
Contravention of Liquor Law	10
Contravention of Pass Law	45
Resisting police	2
Breach of trading regulations	1
Breach of Customs regulations	3
Culpable homicide	1
Arson	1
Perjury	1
Miscellaneous	7

Theft of stock from the Orange Free State is not of common occurrence. The chiefs possess almost complete control of the people and have means of acquiring a perfect knowledge of their movements with their stock.

This tribal organization affords facilities for tracing and recovering stolen stock and detection of theft, and I have experienced little difficulty in this when any lost stock has been traced into the district.

The following is a summary of reports made to me with results :—

Description.	Reported lost or stolen.	Traced into Basutoland.	Not traced into Basutoland.	Recoverd in Basutoland.	Not recovered.	Remarks.
Horses	21	2	19	2	19	One horse in pound supposed to have been stolen.
Cattle	14	2	12	2	12	Seven cattle of this number, I have ascertained, were subsequently found in the Orange Free State.

The following passes have been issued to natives leaving the district :—

Number of passess	6,892
Seeking work	3,855 individuals.
Other purposes	7,546 individuals.
Total	11,401

This return is exclusive of Butha Buthe passes.

In consequence of the presence of some cases of small-pox in the district, it has been recently advisable to provide natives leaving the country with certificates of vaccination in addition to

their passes. The Medical Officer has alluded to the outbreak of small-pox in his report. It has, so far, been successfully localised and confined to a few villages in the district, but the constant arrival of natives from Johannesburg is an ever-present source of danger.

I enclose a report on the schools in the district which have been inspected. There appears to be a great want of certificated native teachers of good character.

A report on roads has recently been submitted. The roads in the district are at present in passable order, but, as usual, were very much cut up during the wet season, necessitating considerable expenditure on road parties. Labourers for this purpose are procured without difficulty at 1*s.* per diem without food.

I enclose a nominal list* of traders in the district, and my report on the inspection of schools, together with Mr. Boxwell's report on the sub-district of Butha Buthe, under his immediate charge, and the report † of the Medical Officer in the district.

(Signed) H. C. SLOLEY,
Assistant Commissioner.

BUTHA BUTHE.

Annual Report for the Year ended 30th June 1894.

General.

During the past year, the general state of the ward has been peaceful. There has been no fighting and no serious crime. One case of suicide was reported.

On the 16th August, the reeds at Butha Buthe were cut to the satisfaction of both sides.

During the same month, three men who had illegally arrested a man in the Free State were tried and punished.

In February 1894 Matela died, and his eldest son Letsika succeeded him in the chieftainship of that ward.

On the 17th February, I left Butha Buthe in order to take over the duties of the Assistant Commissioner, Leribe, during his absence on leave, and returned on the 14th June. During the time, nothing of importance took place in this ward.

I am happy to say that, so far, small-pox has not shown itself. Numbers of the people have been vaccinated and this work is still going on.

I am glad to be able to report that both the total revenue of the ward and the amount of hut tax collected are considerably in excess of any former year. The total revenue shows an increase of 282*l.* 7*s.* 0*d.* and the hut tax 266*l.* In the hut tax, the greater part of the increase has been in Matela's Ward. The amount

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* Not printed. † See page 49.

received for licences has again fallen off, owing to the very few hawkers' licences taken out during the year.

I subjoin a return of Revenue from 1st July 1893 to 30th June 1894:—

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Hut Tax	1,485 0 0
Licences	112 0 0
Fines	24 15 0
Fees	0 13 6
Miscellaneous	3 0 0
Total	£1,625 8 6

The number of huts on which hut tax has been paid is 2,563. Amount of arrear hut tax collected is 353*l.* 10*s.*

Licences.

I subjoin a return of the number of licences issued during the year:—

General traders	11
Hawkers' (paid)	2
Hawkers' (free)	2
Mill dam licences	Nil

Lost Stock.

Very few horses or cattle were traced into this ward during the year, and I am glad to be able to report that the few so traced were recovered. I subjoin return:—

Description.	Reported.	Traced into Basutoland.	Not traced into Basutoland.	Recovered in Basutoland.	Not Recovered.	Remarks.
Horses	17	3	14	3	14	—
Cattle	1	1	—	1	—	—

Crops, &c.

Owing to the very heavy rains, which to a great extent hindered the people from cleaning their lands properly, and the early frost, the crops, with the exception of wheat, have not been

good. The local prices are about as follows, but will probably rise :—

Wheat, 15*s.* per muid.
Mealies, 7*s.* per muid.
Kaffir corn, 10*s.* per muid.
Forage, 12*s.* per 100 bundles.
Cattle, 50*s.* to 80*s.* each.
Sheep, 10*s.* to 15*s.* each

Schedule of civil and criminal cases tried at Butha Buthe during the year :—

Civil cases	2
Illegally seizing a man in Orange Free State	1
Theft	2
Contravening Liquor Regulations	1
„ Pass „	6
„ Customs „	1
Found in village by night with intent to commit a felony	1

Patrols.

Schedule of Patrols sent out from Butha Buthe during the year :—

Number of patrols, 40.
Number of men engaged, 75.
Estimated distance travelled by collective patrols, 2,255 miles.

Number of arrests for—

(*a.*) Contravention Liquor Regulations	1
(*b.*) „ Pass „	6
(*c.*) Other Offences	1

Passes.

Schedule of Passes issued at Butha Buthe during the year :—

Seeking employment	2,095
Other purposes	5,130
Total	7,225

Schools.

There are three schools in the ward drawing grants from Government, one under the English Church and two under the French Protestant. The English Church School at Secubu is making good progress.

BASUTOLAND. 1893–94.

Relations with Bordering States.

My relations with the Free State Officials continue friendly and they give any help I require.

(Signed) W. BOXWELL,
Sub-Inspector,
Basutoland Mounted Police.

BEREA.

Assistant Commissioner's Office, Berea,
June 30, 1894.

Annual Report, 1893–1894.

The state of the district has, generally speaking, been quiet during the year past.

In September 1893, a quarrel arose between Chiefs Masupha and Theko Letsie, regarding the ownership of a small reed bed near Thaba Bosigo.

The cause of the quarrel was insignificant in itself but it involved a matter of precedent which raised it into a matter of importance to all concerned.

Theko claimed these reeds on the grounds that he was duly appointed caretaker of them, and held that Masupha had succeeded irregularly to the charge of them.

On Theko attempting to assert his rights, Masupha cut the reeds and carried them to Thaba Bosigo and called out a large armed force, which he posted at Thaba Bosigo and in the Thupa Kobo Valley to protect them.

The settlement of the case was referred to the Resident Commissioner, who called a Pitso, which sat at a point near the disputed ground.

Nearly every chief of importance was present, and it was unanimously decided that Theko's contention was more or less correct, but that, as Masupha had held possession of the reed bed for many years, he should be allowed to retain it during his lifetime, and on his decease it should revert to Theko or his representative.

Later on in the year, slight friction arose between Leshuburu Majara and Tumo Masupha, and Leshuburu and a headman named Maqalika. These were, however, matters of only local and temporary importance.

The quarrels of Chiefs Lerothodi and Maama in December 1893 over the boundary line near Koro Koro, though not directly affecting this district, yet caused a good deal of excitement, which was only quieted by a judgment delivered by the Resident Commissioner at a Pitso called by him to assemble at Motsikis Village, near the Phutiatsana.

A few weeks ago, a complaint was made by the Chief Peite Lesaoana to the effect that Lebese Masupha had broken the boundary line between Masupha and Peete, when ploughing.

I requested Mamathe Lepogo to co-operate with Peete in settling the affair. They have, however, been unable to do so, and it has been agreed that I shall shortly point out to their joint representatives once more the line laid down by my predecessor and confirmed by the Resident Commissioner.

I regret to have to report that Moekitse Masupha, one of the younger sons of Masupha, having for some time past made himself notorious by his impatience of control and by his general bad behaviour, at length compromised himself to such an extent in a criminal case heard before a combined court at Maseru, that the Resident Commissioner has been compelled to decline to recognise him in any way as a headman.

In my report last year, I was obliged to draw attention to the increased brandy smuggling across the Caledon River, presumably from Lady Brand, Orange Free State.

To meet this district a temporary camp was placed near Mokhetoaning in this district, opposite to Lady Brand, consisting of ten non-commissioned officers and men (of whom half were contributed by the Assistant Commissioner, Maseru).

This detachment, during the period it was stationed there, though not actually making many arrests, still did good service, the people mostly being unwilling to attempt to smuggle brandy while running such a very apparent risk of capture.

I am glad to say that, though it undoubtedly exists still, the smuggling referred to has now greatly diminished.

The police force at my disposal consists of:—

1 European sub-inspector.
1 European constable.
3 Native non-commissioned officers
23 Native privates.

These are all mounted, equipped and efficient.

During the past year, the patrols performed by this detachment are as under:—

Number of patrols	169
Number of men engaged	461
Number of miles patrolled	3,087

Arrests.

For contravention of liquor regulations	12
For contravention of pass regulation	2
For other offences	2

The following cases have been heard in the Assistant Commissioner's Court :—

Civil cases - - - - - -	2
Criminal cases :—	
Resisting police - - - - -	1
Contravening trading regulations - -	3
Contravening customs regulations - -	3
Contravening liquor regulations - -	6
Contravening Lord's Day Observance Act -	2
Theft - - - - - -	6
Assault - - - - - -	2
	23

During the year there has been a good deal of anxiety owing to occasional outbreaks of small-pox in the district. Of these there were three in all.

The natives themselves, however, quarantined all cases so quickly and thoroughly that beyond the first cases there were no more, and only one death occurred.

There being no medical officer in the district, the vaccination was carried on as far as possible by political officers, and 368 persons have thus been vaccinated at this station.

There has been very little stock reported lost from the Orange Free State during the year. Below is shown the results of such reports :—

Stock.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.	Remarks.
Cattle - -	15	5	10	5	10	
Horses - -	5	2	3	2	3	
Saddle - -	1	1	—	—	1	

The matter of the saddle not recovered is still under investigation.

I have received every assistance from the Chiefs whenever I have required it in these cases.

Passes as under were issued at this office to natives leaving the territory.

For labour purposes - -	2,686	7,156 in all.
For other purposes - -	4,470	

There has been a strong demand lately for vaccination certificates, which appear to be needed by natives when travelling in the Orange Free State.

The number of general trading stations in the district is 25.

Paid hawkers' licences have been issued during the year to ten persons. Free hawkers' licences for same period were issued to five persons.

The hut tax of the district has been rather disappointing. While, I believe, the tax on being called for has been promptly paid everywhere else in the country, it has in this district been paid only by driblets, and it has, indeed, only been completed within the last few days.

The tax shows no signs of again reaching the level of three years ago, but I am informed on all sides that many families are leaving Masupha and Leshuburu and are settling under other Chiefs in Basutoland or emigrating to the Orange Free State, and this may to a great extent account for the apparent decrease.

Hut Tax was paid during year past on 5,256 huts.

Below is given a table showing details of Revenue in the District for year ending 30th June 1894:—

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Hut Tax	2,748 16 0
Licences	296 9 0
Fees of Court or Office	2 2 6
Miscellaneous	3 16 0
	£3,051 3 6

Of the above Hut Tax, 273*l.* 10*s.* is Arrear Tax.

The standard crops viz.:—Wheat, mealies, and Kafir corn promised well in the early summer, and the wheat fulfilled its promise, but mealies and Kafir corn have been greatly damaged by the heavy rains which we experienced in January and February last. The current values ruling at present are:—

Wheat 8*s.* to 10*s.* per muid.
Mealies 6*s.* to 8*s.* per sewn bag.
Kafir corn 10*s.* per sewn bag.

Stock of all kinds is offered for sale at average prices.

It is expected that the price of mealies and Kafir corn will rise, owing to the comparative failure of the crop.

The roads of the district, owing to the heavy autumn rains referred to above, were very much damaged and an extra grant was made by the Resident Commissioner to repair them and thus to facilitate the removal of grain by the traders. The main road is now in good order and the bye-roads are in a fit state to carry the traffic passing over them.

The Government offices, referred to in my report of last year, have been completed and have proved a great boon.

The Government buildings are in a good state of repair, and I do not apprehend need of much expenditure on them during the coming year.

In conclusion, I would beg to state that during the past year I have received every assistance from the Orange Free State officials with whom I have come in contact.

(Signed) L. WROUGHTON,
Assistant Commissioner, Berea.

MASERU.

Annual Report for the Year ended 30th June 1894.

General.

This year has not passed without disturbance, although, fortunately, no blood has been spilled.

In September last a dispute arose between the Chiefs Theko and Masupha regarding chieftainship over an exceedingly small reed bed in the Phutiatsana River. What made the case more than usually difficult was, each of the disputants had a fair show of right on his side. Masupha made out a fair case, inasmuch as he could adduce evidence to show that he had received the reed bed from Moshesh; while Theko produced equally weighty evidence to show that he had been constituted its custodian by the late Paramount Chief Letse. Both claims were good in their way and the dispute may be attributed to the vacillating and procrastinating manner in which the Chief Letsie mismanaged public affairs.

Bloodshed was averted by the loyal respect for the law shown by Chief Theko, who, although he was aware that his neighbour Masupha was under arms, and ready and threatening to attack him, refused to call a man of his own very large following to arms, preferring, as he told me, to place his claim unreservedly in the hands of the Court.

The dispute was afterwards compromised by the Chief Theko agreeing to leave Masupha in undisturbed possession of the reed bed during his lifetime on the understanding that at his death it shall revert to Theko.

Last year I had to report trouble between the Paramount Chief and his younger brother Maama, and I regret to say that this year bad blood exists between them. No sooner is one dispute settled than another crops up, and certain restless spirits who live at Korokoro, where the two wards join, and where the boundary is imperfectly defined, appear to take pleasure in trespassing and annoying their neighbours, thinking, no doubt, thereby to gain favour with their respective chiefs.

These little annoyances are a fertile source of trouble, and last December the whole country was nearly plunged into civil war by one of them.

On this occasion, the Paramount Chief was so enraged at what he, with good reason, considered the gross disrespect and contempt

of his authority by his younger brother, that he called up the people with arms to punish him.

Disaster was, however, averted by the timely intervention of the authorities. A Pitso was held and the Paramount Chief was censured and fined by the Resident Commissioner for taking up arms without authority.

Liquor smuggling still continues, though I think it has decreased of late. The Chief Bereng has rendered valuable assistance in checking it.

The mealie and Kaffir corn crops have failed this year, but there was a fair yield of wheat.

Population

This has gone on increasing since the census; it was then 45,402 souls

Commercial.

Last year, trade was bad and this year it is no better. When the crops fail, the natives have very little to buy goods with.

The purchasing power of grain here is materially affected by the prohibitive duties placed upon it by the Transvaal Government. Probably no county suffers more from this obstruction to trade than Basutoland.

The following are the average prices paid for produce :—

Mealies, 5*s.* per muid.
Kaffir corn, 12*s.* per muid.
Wheat, 10*s.* per muid.
Wool, 2*d.* to 4*d.* per lb.
Cattle, 3*l.* to 5*l.* per head.
Ponies, 2*l.* to 10*l.* each.

Public Works.

The roads in the district are not in such excellent repair as they were this time last year. The constant downpour of rain all through last summer played great havoc, and except for the exertions of the road parties there would have been no roads at all by now.

Police.

The force attached to my office consists nominally of:—

2 sub-inspectors.
2 European constables
1 native sergeant.
3 native corporals.
46 native privates.

During the year, 1,495 miles were patrolled.

The number of stock reported lost or stolen from the Orange Free State is very small. In every case where stock has been traced to Basutoland it has been recovered.

The following table shows results of action taken in this matter:—

Description.	Reported.	Traced to Basutoland.	Not Traced to Basutoland.	Recovered in Basutoland.	Not Recovered.	Remarks.
Horses	18	2	16	2	16	Seven horses have been reported by Orange Free State officials as having been recovered in the Free State. I have not been able to get reports regarding the remaining nine.
Cattle	12	—	12	12		

Serious crime continues to be rare. I append a list of cases tried in my court:—

Theft	15
Contravening liquor regulations	17
Contravening pass regulations	2
Fraud	1
Arson	1
Assault	4
Shopbreaking	2
Housebreaking	2
Resisting police	2
Homicide	3
Civil actions	2 (Divorce.)

Revenue.

There is a decrease of 381*l.* 17*s.* 2*d.* in the Revenue as against last year. The short-fall is mostly in hut tax, and is occasioned by a piece of country which used to belong to this district being now administered from Qacha's Nek.

The following is a return of Revenue in detail:—

Heads of Revenue.	Amount. £	s.	d.
Hut tax	3,676	0	0
Licences	266	0	0
Fines	63	7	0
Ferry tolls	427	6	0
Fees of Court	36	4	6
Miscellaneous	138	16	5
Post Office	1,032	3	3
	£5,639	17	2

Tax was paid on 7,072 huts, and arrear hut tax amounting to 316*l.* 10*s.* 0*d.* was collected.

There are twenty-five general traders' licences now in force. Eleven paid, and three free, hawkers' licences were issued.

Passes.

Six thousand three hundred and seventy-three persons took passes during the year. Of these, three thousand four hundred and twelve were going in search of employment.

Relations with Bordering States.

Intercourse with the Orange Free State officials continues to be of a friendly nature, and I have pleasure in testifying to the cordial co-operation afforded by the Landdrost of Lady Brand.

I attach the Medical Officer's reports.*

(Signed) J. C. MACGREGOR,
Assistant Commissioner.

MAFETENG.

Annual Report for Year ended 30th June, 1894.

The antagonistic attitude of Chief Maama Letsie towards his elder brother, the Paramount Chief, disturbed the people on two or three occasions and caused considerable unrest, as chiefs sympathising with the object of both factions are numerous in Mafeteng district. On such occasions collision was averted by the firm policy of Government, and since Maama's last attempt to defy the Paramount Chief the people have settled down with a greater feeling of security, expressing a hope that they will not again be disturbed in their peaceful occupations through the political intrigues of their Chiefs.

Chiefs Seiso, Mogela, and two Councillors were included in the party which accompanied Chief Lerothodi to Cape Town last March, for the purpose of paying a visit of courtesy to His Excellency the High Commissioner. These Chiefs were very favourably impressed by all they saw, and they retain many pleasing reminiscences of their visit.

A few land disputes have occurred during the past year and all have been satisfactorily adjusted, with the exception of an old dispute between Chiefs Moyela and Azarule, concerning a strip of ground now occupied by one Mokone.

There has been a marked decrease in brandy smuggling from the Orange Free State, and this improvement is mainly due to the

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* See page 48.

BASUTOLAND. 1893-94.

energy of Orange Free State officials, and the vigilant patrolling of Basutoland police.

Canteens which existed twelve months ago on the Wepener Border are now closed; others are still open, but the illicit sellers have been so frequently convicted for supplying large quantities of brandy to natives that they have become very cautious and will not run the risk unless they are acquainted with the purchaser, and their principal business is now done by selling "tots," which are consumed on the premises.

Many instances have come to my notice of gaps having been cut through the border fence opposite Free State canteens, and it is evident these openings are left by the proprietors for the convenience of their customers, and thus the Basutoland Government has hitherto borne the cost of maintaining the fence.

I append a return of patrols performed by the Mafeteng detachment of Basutoland Mounted Police during the past year.

Number of Patrols.	Number of Men engaged.	Estimated distance travelled by collective patrols.	Arrests. *A.* Contravening Liquor Regulations. *B.* Contravening Pass Regulations. *C.* Other offences.	
87	439	5,214 miles	*A.*	17
			B.	4
			C.	22

Whenever necessary, the Chiefs have assisted the police to trace stolen property and to arrest accused persons.

During the past year, no stock thefts from the Orange Free State nor Cape Colony were traced to Basuto residing in this district, but stolen stock was brought in by foreigners, who were arrested and in due course surrendered to their respective Governments. In each instance, the stolen property was recovered.

I attach a return of lost and stolen stock.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.	Remarks.
Horses - - -	13	5	8	*9	4	* Of this number four have been reported by their owners as recovered in Orange Free State.
Cattle - -	1	—	1	—	1	
Sheep - -	—	—	—	—	—	

The Civil and Criminal Cases were tried in the Assistant Commissioner's Court. The homicide cases (tried by combined

courts) were all the result of quarrels at beer drinks, when most of the persons concerned were intoxicated:—

Culpable homicide	4
Civil cases	6
Committing a breach of public order	1
Contravening section 7 Trading Regulations	17
Contravening section 1 Trading Regulations	1
Contravening section 19 Trading Regulations	5
Contravening Pass Regulations	4
Theft by means of embezzlement	1
Intimidating witnesses	2
Escape from lawful custody	3
Resisting and assaulting police	5
Common assault	2
Contempt of court	3
Loitering on enclosed premises	1
Assault with intent	1
Destroying public works	1
Cases dismissed	4

The Basutoland Mounted Police stationed in this district discharge their duties in a satisfactory manner, the detachment is well mounted and equipped, and the men are amenable to discipline.

The following is a Return of the strength of the Police Detachment under my command:—

1 Sub-inspector.
2 European constables.
1 Native officer.
1 „ sergeant.
1 „ corporal.
31 „ privates.

Agricultural development has been stimulated during the last year by an agricultural show, the first of the kind held in Mafeteng. The show was sufficiently successful to encourage the promoters to make it an annual event, in order to furnish native stock breeders and produce growers with incitement to a wholesome emulation.

There was a copious downpour of rain during the summer months, but still the harvest was far from satisfactory. Wheat was plentiful but of poor quality, and only a second, and in some instances, a third rate harvest of mealies and Kafir corn was obtained. It was not a prosperous year for traders.

I attach a return of the number of licences granted:—

General traders	20
Hawkers' Licences (paid)	3
„ „ (free)	27

[BASUTOLAND. 1893-94.

The rainfall for the twelve months ended 30th June, 1894, according to the rain gauge kept at Mafeteng, was 39·79 inches.

The following is a list of prices that ruled for stock and grain, &c. :—

Horned cattle, 40*s.* to 80*s.*
Goats, 5*s.* to 7*s.* 6*d.*
Sheep, 5*s.* to 12*s.*
Pigs, 10*s.* to 20*s.*
Basuto ponies, 60*s.* to 120*s.*
Hides, 2½*d.* per lb.
Sheepskins, 3*d.* per lb.
Basuto tobacco, 6*d.* per lb.
Wheat, 7*s.* 6*d.* per bag of 200 lbs.
Mealies, 4*s.* 6*d.* per bag of 200 lbs.
Oats, 6*s.* per bag of 150 lbs.
Barley, 5*s.* per bag of 150 lbs.
Kaffir corn, 10*s.* per bag of 200 lbs.
Oat hay, 25*s.* per 100 bundles.
Wool, 3½*d.* per lb.
Mohair, 6*d.* per lb.

Continuous rain in the summer destroyed the roads, and it was only at considerable labour and expense that the principal routes were kept open for traffic. The district roads are now in fair repair.

Government buildings were repaired and improved, and a new post and telegraph office built, and the extension of the telegraph line from Wepener to Mafeteng is a great boon to the district.

The number of passes issued in Mafeteng district to natives wishing to proceed beyond the borders of Basutoland were, viz. :—

Passes issued to persons seeking employment -	3,637
Passes issued to persons for other purposes -	5,372
Total - - - - - - -	9,009

I attach the Medical Officer's Report,* showing that the Government Dispensary was well attended during the past year, that a return of lepers has been framed, and that the work of vaccination is proceeding satisfactorily in the district.

I have furnished a separate Report on (27) twenty-seven Government-aided schools inspected during the last half-year.

With two exceptions, these schools are under the supervision of missionaries belonging to the various religious denominations established in this territory, and the scholars are gaining knowledge. The two other schools are undenominational, and are doing good work

* See page 50.

Hut tax was well paid in cash, and the collection was practically finished early in the year. The following return shows a slight decrease in the total Revenue as compared with the amount collected the previous year, and this is due to a falling off in fines, but there was a great improvement in the amount of hut tax paid.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.		
	£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	3,596	10	0
Licences	203	0	0
Fines	78	15	0
Fees for Registering Marriages	7	5	0
Fees of Court	1	4	6
Miscellaneous	13	7	8
	£3,900	2	2

Number of huts on which tax was paid, 6,818. Arrear hut tax collected, 187*l.* 10*s.* 0*d.*

(Signed) T. P. KENNAN,
Assistant Commissioner.

CORNET SPRUIT.

Annual Report for the year ending 30th June 1894

General.

During the past year the district has been, as a rule, orderly.

Unfortunately, the mealie and Kafir corn crops have been almost an entire failure. This is owing to these crops being unusually late, and the frosts unusually early.

Fortunately the local traders, and a considerable number of natives, especially those in the mountainous portion of the district, hold a good supply of the above cereals from last year, so that I do not anticipate any necessity for importing.

No important disturbances have occurred during the past year.

In August 1893, a dispute arose between Malebanye and Lebona, in which the former Chief took up arms, but was promptly stopped from doing any mischief, and was subsequently brought to trial and severely punished by fine, and suspension from all Government duty during the pleasure of the Resident Commissioner. The fine was paid, and Malebanye showed great penitence. He

was reinstated in the following January, and has since behaved very satisfactorily.

In the same month (August 1893) a beer disturbance took place between Makoroane and Qhase, in which several men were wounded with sticks. They were attended by a medical officer, and all recovered. The matter was investigated and Qhase fined.

In September, Mako Seake reported that Letsie was cutting reeds in Sekaki's ward. This matter was amicably settled.

Patrols were sent during the month of September to impress upon the natives the importance of vaccination.

On the 23rd October, Raboroko was fined five head of cattle by Letsie for attempting to cause mischief between himself and Mokhele. I was present at the Pitso and approved of the sentence.

In December, Malebanye reported that he was sent for by the Paramount Chief to take part in a warlike demonstration against Maama Letsie.

I advised Malebanya to inform the Paramount Chief that I, on behalf of Government, did not desire him to go up, and further advised him to keep quiet, which he did.

In March last a petty Chief, Alfred Moletsane, closed the shop at Tsolane. I sent for him and informed him that the shop was licensed by Government at the request of the Bataung Chiefs, and that he must not interfere with the business. This order was complied with.

On the 30th April the Baphuti Chief, Klwelenye, died. His successor is his eldest son, Tsetla.

During that month all Chiefs were warned to send in their lepers for medical examination.

Relations with Bordering States.

Friendly relations continue between this territory and the neighbouring State. The greater portion of the border line between this district and the Free State has been substantially fenced with wire supported by stone pillars and wooden posts. This fence is proving beneficial to both sides.

Very few cases of illicit liquor traffic have occurred during the past year. *Vide* Criminal Records.

Population.

The population is steadily increasing, especially in the Maluti.

Education.

Schools are progressing fairly well.

Trade.

Trade in this district is slack, owing to the large stocks of grain still held by traders, which was purchased at high rates,

and for which there has not been sufficient demand at profitable rates. Ordinary business is in an average condition.

In addition to the great quantity of grain in the country, large quantities have been exported,

The licences issued are as follows:—

General traders	13
Hawkers' licences (paid)	1
Hawkers' licences (free)	2
Mill dam licences	2

Medical.

A considerable amount of work has been done in the Government Hospital, and large numbers of persons have been vaccinated, also a good many vaccination certificates have been issued.

Criminal.

The chiefs continue loyal, and assist in the suppression of crime. The following is an extract from the criminal record:—

Culpable homicide	2
Theft	5
Contravening Section 18 Regulations	5
Contravening Section 7 Regulations	1

Labour.

Labour is plentiful, and wages reasonable.

Passes issued during the year:—

For seeking employment	2,600
For other purposes	2,145
	4,745

Number of huts on which tax has been paid, 6,214.
Arrear Hut Tax, 181*l.*

Police.

The police at this station are an efficient body of men, and are well mounted.

Patrol reports show as follows:—

Number of Patrols.	Total Number of Men engaged.	Estimated distance travelled
81	146	3,440 miles

Arrests.

Contravening Liquor Regulations	1
Contravening Pass Regulation	1
Other Offences	3

Return of Lost and Stolen Stock.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.	Remarks.
Horses	14	3	11	3	11	One horse was recovered in the Free State.
Cattle	11	—	11	—	11	

Revenue.

Collections during the year are as follows:—

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Hut tax	3,256 0 0
Licences	134 0 0
Fines	69 16 10
Ferry Tolls	116 5 3
Fees of Court	6 5 6
Miscellaneous	14 9 6
	£3,596 17 1

Roads.

The roads in this district are in good order.

(Signed) J. W. BOWKER,
Assistant Commissioner.

QUTHING.

Annual Report for the Year ending 30th June, 1894.

General.

I. Although no actual disturbance of the peace has occurred in this district during the past year, considerable friction has been

caused by the action of the principal Chief of the district, Ukwebe Letsie, in persistently ignoring the rights of a number of sub-chiefs and headmen who were located in Quthing by the Cape Government in 1882–3. The intention of Ukwebe appears to have been to supplant these headmen and to instal creatures of his own, among them some of the younger sons of Letsie, in their places.

The numerous complaints caused by these proceedings, which have been going on for several years, led to a Pitso being held at Moyeni in the early part of this month, in order that the Acting Resident Commissioner and the Paramount Chief might inquire into these grievances. This inquiry, which lasted several days, ended in the rights of the original headmen being confirmed, and in Ukwebe's attempts to dispossess them being exposed and condemned as opposed to tribal custom.

In view, however, of the growth of population in Basutoland generally, it was considered inexpedient to remove the trespassers, and the local headmen were requested to provide them with land for cultivation, on the understanding that the newcomers were to assume no authority as chiefs, but were to be regarded as subordinate to the headmen with whom they were located. These matters having been settled and the settlements duly recorded, there appears to be no necessity for dealing with them seriatim in this Report.

II. The question of the succession to the chieftainship of the Ama Vunahle Clan of the Ba Tembu tribe in Quthing was decided by the Acting Resident Commissioner, at the above-mentioned meeting, in favour of Stock, the eldest son of the old Chief Tyali. The latter is still living, but is very infirm, and he was desirous that the succession might be settled during his lifetime in favour of Stock, in order to avoid disputes.

III. In October 1893, it was decided to form a new district on the Upper Orange River, and the outstation of Qacha's Nek was cut off from Quthing, together with the wards of the Chiefs Mpiti and Sekake Makuai.

Agricultural.

The crops of maize and Kaffir corn have been seriously affected be early frosts, and the yield will be scanty. It is not anticipated that any actual famine will ensue this season, as large stocks of grain are held by traders in Central Basutoland.

A good deal has been done during the past year towards the eradication of burrweed, the natives themselves having in many cases attended to the representations of Government and taken the matter up. Owing to the great vitality of the seed, these efforts will have to be renewed for several successive seasons if they are to be finally effectual.

Locusts have not come into the district in large swarms, but enough exist to cause trouble should they breed here.

BASUTOLAND. 1893–94.

Foot-and-mouth disease has not shown itself among the stock this season, but cattle have been dying in this neighbourhood from redwater, brought in by transport oxen from the Cape Colony.

Current prices of produce and live stock are as follows :—

Wheat, 10*s.* per muid of 200 lbs.
Kaffir corn 12*s.* per muid of 200 lbs.
Mealies, 6*s.* per muid of 200 lbs.
Oat hay, 15*s.* to 25*s.* per 100 bundles.
Potatoes, 6*s.* per sack.
Hides, wet, 2½*d.* per lb.
Hides, dry, about 12*s.* each.
Wool grease, 4½*d.* per lb.
Mohair, 5*d.* per lb.
Sheep, 8*s.* to 15*s.* each.
Oxen, 3*l.* to 5*l.* each.
Ponies, 6*l.* to 10*l.* each.

Relations with Bordering States.

Official relations with the adjacent districts of the Cape Colony and East Griqualand have been generally of a satisfactory nature.

A question was raised by certain Baphuiti in Quthing as to the actual boundary between Basutoland and the Cape Colony, near the source of the Telle or Tees River. This has been settled in favour of the Cape Colony, the piece of land above situated which the Bapluiti wished to lay claim to being evidently part of the Herschel District.

Public Works.

The roads in this district are not in as good order as could be desired, considering the labour that has been expended on them during the year. The rugged nature of the country is in great measure responsible for this. The Government Pont on the Orange River has been of great service to traffic, the river having been impassable nearly ten months of the year.

Trade.

The number of general traders' licences issued during the year is sixteen. Some of these trading stations are almost inaccessible for wagons, and trade is carried on under great disadvantages. Rates of wagon transport to this district are exceptionally heavy, the reason alleged being the trying nature of the roads in the Herschel district, which are almost the only outlet for the Quthing trade. Should the road to East Griqualand over Ongeluk's Nek be made passable for wagons, it will give a great impulse to trade in this territory.

Licences issued :—

General trades	16
Hawkers (paid)	10
Hawkers (free)	1
Mill dam licences	Nil

Education.

A report on the aided schools in the district is furnished on a separate Schedule.*

Revenue.

Collections during the year have been as follows :—

Head of Revenue.	Amount.		
	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	2,210	4	0
Licences	160	0	0
Hawkers' licences	10	0	0
Fines	51	8	0
Ferry tolls	294	6	0
Miscellaneous	27	7	0
Fees of Court	22	10	0
Marriage registration	1	12	6
	£2,777	7	6

This compares favourably with the previous year's collection of 1,999*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.* The total number of huts on which tax was paid this year is 4,141, and arrear tax amounting to 122*l.* 10*s.* was collected.

Population.

The population of this district is about 20,000.

Medical.

There is no resident medical officer in Quthing, and in urgent cases it is necessary to send to Mohales Hoek, nearly 40 miles distant, for medical assistance.

No cases of small-pox have been reported in the district during the past year. Vaccination has been carried on to some extent.

* Not printed.

Leprosy appears to be increasing, and a report on the subject has recently been made by the medical officer, Mohales Hoek.

A number of deaths from enteric fever took place in various parts of the district about September 1893, principally among Ba Tembu.

Passes.

The following passes have been issued from this office during the year :—

Ordinary passes - - -	2,896
To persons seeking service - - -	1,391

Police.

The police at this station are a smart body of men, and their duties, generally speaking, are well performed. When their duty to Government clashes with the wishes of their Chiefs, they are sometimes placed in awkward positions. This is inevitable in a country like this, where native self-government through the Chiefs is a part of the system.

Patrol reports for the year show as under :—

Number of patrols, 38.
Total number of men engaged, 91.
Estimated distance travelled by collective patrols, 2,921 miles.

Number of Arrests.

For contravening Liquor Regulations - -	1
For contravening Pass Laws - - -	Nil
For other offences - - - -	7

The Returns of Lost and Stolen Stock show as follows :—

Description.	Number reported lost or stolen.	Number traced into Basutoland.	Number not traced.	Number recovered by Police.	Not recovered.	Remarks.
Horses -	1	1	—	1	—	Returned to owner.
Oxen -	8	8	—	8	—	Returned to owner.
Other cattle	1	—	1	—	1	Found at Lady Grey, whence it was reported stolen.
Sheep -	369	54	315	54	315	54 restored to owner, 165 supposed to have been taken to the Transkei, no reason for supposing any of remainder were brought into this district.

The criminal cases tried here during the year are as follows :—

Culpable homicide - - - -	1
Rape - - - - - -	1
Theft - - - - - -	7
Contravention Customs Regulations - -	2
Contravention Trading Regulations - -	1
Assault - - - - - -	2
Contempt of Court - - - -	1
Breach of prison discipline - - - -	1
Contravention of Pass Regulations - - -	1

(Signed) S. BARRETT,
Assistant Commissioner.

Assistant Commissioner's Office,
Quthing, 30 June, 1894.

QACHA'S NEK.

Annual Report for the Year ending 30th June 1894.

General.

I took over the duties as officer in charge at this station on the 26th October 1893.

During the past year, the general state of the district has been very peaceful, and with the exception of a dispute which has arisen between the Chiefs Mpiti and Sekake, as to certain rights in the neighbourhood of the Qaugua rivulet, relations between the different Chiefs appear to be of a friendly nature.

The dispute above mentioned arose in September last, during the ploughing season, and the Paramount Chief Lerotholi promised to inquire into the matter and settle it, but up to the present it is still in abeyance, and was the cause of hostilities nearly breaking out between Mpiti and Sekake at the beginning of this month (June) as to the right of cutting reeds in the same locality.

The Chiefs have always rendered me ready assistance in tracing and recovering lost or stolen stock, and in bringing thieves to justice.

Several Chiefs and headmen belonging to the Quthing and Mohales Hoek districts have been allowed to pay their hut-tax at this station during the past year, as it is more convenient for them to come here than to go to the stations of their respective districts.

Foot-and-mouth disease, which was prevalent among some of the cattle last year, has entirely disappeared.

On account of exceptionally early frosts this year, the majority of Kaffir corn and mealie crops have been destroyed before they had time to mature. The wheat crop was exceptionally good.

Relations with the neighbouring districts of the Cape Colony have been satisfactory, and the officials there have rendered me every assistance when I have had occasion to call upon them to do so in tracing and recovering lost or stolen stock, and arresting thieves from this district.

Commercial.

There are now two trading stations in the district, one having been recently opened at Mpiti's, and both appear to be doing a fair trade.

Mealies and Kaffir corn are steadily rising in price.

The average prices paid by traders for produce and live stock during the year are as follows:—

Wheat, 3*s.* to 5*s.* per bag.
Mealies, 3*s.* to 6*s.* per bag.
Kaffir corn, 5*s.* to 12*s.* per bag.
Wool, 2*d.* to 3½*d.* per lb.
Mohair, 5*d.* to 6*d.* per lb.
Hides, 1*d.* to 2*d.* per lb.
Cattle, 30*s.* to 4*l.* each.
Horses, 30*s.* to 3*l.* each.
Sheep, 5*s.* to 10*s.* each.
Goats, 4*s.* to 6*s.* each.

Public Works.

During the year the new road from Strachan's shop at Nquatsha to this station was completed, and is in good repair. I regret to say that the portion of the road from Mafube Mission Station to the above-mentioned shop, which I mentioned in a special report of the road, has not yet been repaired by the Colonial Government.

Officers' quarters and office hut were completed during the last year at this Station.

Police.

The detachment has been strengthened by the enrolment of four extra men, and now numbers fourteen. The work done has been satisfactory and the men are very amenable to discipline.

Patrols.

Number of patrols performed, 16.
Number of men engaged, 27.
Estimated distance travelled, 1,650 miles.

Number of Arrests.

For contravening Liquor Regulations	1
For contravening Pass Regulations	5
For other offences	8

Estimated distance travelled by police on other duties than regular patrols, 5,500 miles.

Crime.

Few cases of serious crime have occurred. One case of culpable homicide has been dealt with, and another is awaiting trial.

Thieving amongst the Basuto proper is very rare, but is rather prevalent among the foreign natives who have been admitted into the district to reside. The thieving propensities of these people may in time redound to the discredit of the Basuto. Only one case of brandy smuggling has come to my notice, and though I have no doubt that liquor in small quantities is occasionally brought in, it is not sufficient to have any bad effect on the community in general.

The following criminal and civil cases have been tried during the year:—

Theft	4
Culpable homcide	1
Gaol breaking	1
Contravening Liquor Regulations	1
Contravening Pass Regulations	3
Contempt of Court	1
Civil cases	1

Lost and Stolen Stock.

The following return shows Lost or Stolen Stock reported during the year ending 30th June 1894:—

Description.	Reported.	Traced into Basutoland.	Not traced into Basutoland.	Recovered in Basutoland.	Not recovered.	Remarks.
Horses	6	—	6	1	5	—
Cattle	24	24	—	24	—	—

Revenue.

The chief source of revenue is Hut Tax, which has been satisfactorily paid. I am unable to make a comparison with last year's revenue as, as mentioned above, several more Chiefs have been added to the district, and the mode of bringing the Revenue to account has been altered.

BASUTOLAND. 1893–94.

The following is a return of Revenue collected :—

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.		
	£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	1,032	0	6
Licences	20	0	0
Fines	12	16	0
Fees of Court	0	2	6
	£1,064	19	0

Amount of arrear Tax collected is 176*l.* 10*s.*
Number of huts on which tax was paid, 1,958.

Number of licences issued :—

General traders	2
Hawkers' (paid)	Nil
Do. (free)	Nil
Mill dam licences	Nil

Passes.

The following is a return of passes issued during the year :—

Seeking work	314
Other purposes	1,697
Total	2,011

Medical.

The general state of health of the inhabitants of this district appears to be very good. There is no medical officer attached to the station, but I am allowed to call upon the services of the District Surgeon of Matatiele in very urgent cases, though up to the present I have not yet had occasion to do so.

(Signed) JNO. T. GRIFFITH,
Sub-Inspector, Basutoland Mounted Police,
Officer in charge, Qacha's Nek.

Annual Report, Principal Medical Officer, Basutoland, for the year ending 30th June 1894.

I have the honour to report as follows concerning the medical work in this territory during the past year :—

Since I assumed duty here, the additional regulations framed for the guidance of the medical officers have conduced to a greater efficiency in the work done by them.

In January 1894, each station was inspected, the stores checked, and re-adjusted to meet the requirements of the different stations, a considerable saving being thus effected, especially in the outlay on drugs. A system of recording and checking stores has been initiated. The various hospital buildings have been much improved and additional furniture has been supplied at most stations.

The epidemic of small-pox, which at one time threatened to become very serious, has been nearly stamped out. A full report on the subject was forwarded to you on 31st March. Since the date of that report, two fresh outbreaks occurred in the Berea district, but in both instances the disease was confined to the single individuals who had imported it, they having escaped from the quarantine lines in the Leribe district. The weekly reports from the Medical Officer, Leribe, indicate that the epidemic is practically at an end, a result which is largely attributable to the thorough manner in which the infected villages and the inhabitants were disinfected before the quarantine was removed.

According to your instructions, a careful record of vaccination has been kept and the returns sent in by the district medical officers give a total of 8,031 cases for the year.

The proposed charge for medicine supplied to out-patients will undoubtedly considerably reduce the attendance, but the increased efficiency of the work which a smaller attendance will allow will more than compensate for the falling off in numbers.

An exhaustive enquiry into the question of leprosy in so far as it affects this territory has been instituted, and is being carried out by the district medical officers, and when completed a full report, which it is hoped will contain some valuable information bearing on the question, will be presented.

Arrangements are being made for the more careful and systematic recording of cases, and I hope to be in a position next year to incorporate in my report some useful statistical information in connection with the medical work.

The increasing need for insisting on proper sanitation at the various stations was emphasized by the epidemic of typhoid fever which occurred at Mafeteng this year.

I append a tabular statement of the total number of patients treated.

(Signed) EDW. C. LONG,
Principal Medical Officer.

BASUTOLAND. 1893–94.

Return showing the Number of Attendances at the Government Dispensaries in Basutoland, during the year ending June 30, 1894.

District.	Out-patients.	In-patients.	Vaccinations.	Totals.
Maseru - -	5,591	60	2,693	8,344
Mafeting -	7,027	45	1,804	8,876
Mohales Hoek -	6,304	77	920	7,301
Leribe - -	3,930	50	2,614	6,594
Total -	22,852	232	8,031	31,115

Annual Report Medical Officer, Maseru, for the year ending June 30, 1894.

I have the honour to report as under concerning the medical work in this district during the past twelve months.

I assumed duty here on the 15th November 1893.

The annexed table shows the number of patients treated.

——	Admitted.	Cured.	Relieved.	Died.	Remain in Hospital.
In-patients -	60	25	19	2	5
Out-patients -	New cases 4,895. Subsequent attendances 986.				

The district has, with the exception of several cases of chicken-pox and measles, been free from epidemics, and, bearing in mind the large number of natives entering the district from infected territories, it is fortunate to have escaped the advent of small-pox.

Vaccination has been vigorously carried out, upwards of 2,690 cases having been done at the hospital since July last.

The health of the police detachment has been on the whole good. Venereal diseases are, however, very prevalent among them.

Some repairs and alterations are urgently needed to the Hospital buildings. The proposed conversion of two small wards into one large one will add considerably to the comfort of the patients.

I regret to have to report that the sanitary condition of the station is not as it should be. Suggestions for regulating and enforcing sanitation have been submitted for approval to the Resident Commissioner.

(Signed) EDW. C. LONG,
Medical Officer.

Annual Report Medical Officer, Leribe, for the year ending 30th June 1894.

At the end of the present year, I have the honour to forward for your perusal a report of the medical work accomplished in the district.

The public health has not been as good as in previous years, several epidemics, happily very mild in form, having been prevalent.

The total number of patients having attended the Leribe Hospital has been 3,980, of whom 3,023 were new cases, 907 subsequent attendances and 50 treated as in-patients.

The majority of hospital patients were admitted for surgical operations; almost all did well, only one having died shortly after admission. Another death from *pemphigus manatorum*, admitted *in extremis*, took place at the beginning of the year.

The usual diseases met at the dispensary were, heading the list, gastric disorders 536 cases, bronchial disorders 218, and rheumatism 127. I note also the frequency of abscesses, wounds, and venereal affections. True mokhaola, or syphilis, was only detected in 84 cases; but many diseases, such as synovitis, eczema, &c., had a specific origin.

In October last, the first cases of small-pox were seen at Monuamyana's, a village situated two hours away from the Leribe police camp. The infection came from the Free State, having been imported there from the Randt. The epidemic invaded, one after another, four villages and has lastly located itself in a fifth one at Chaka's, where it is dying out.

From 250 to 300 natives suffered from the disease; 20 cases were fatal, but the fever was of a mild character generally.

An epidemic of varicella prevalent at the same time rendered the keeping of the quarantine somewhat irksome at first, as natives could not be made to understand the difference between the two diseases.

An epidemic of measles, followed by one of ophthalmia, was also rife during the months of March and April, but has now entirely disappeared.

The health of the police detachment, as well as of the prisoners in gaol, has been fair during the year.

The hospital buildings are in good repair, though some improvements and alterations are still necessary to make them perfect.

The sanitary condition of the police camp does not call for any special remarks.

(Signed) G. CASALIS,
Medical Officer.

BASUTOLAND. 1893–4.

Annual Report Medical Officer, Mafeteng, for the year ending 30th June 1894.

The number of persons treated at the Government Free Dispensary during the past year was 7,027; of these, 5,615 new cases 1,412 re-attendances.

In addition, 24 persons were treated at the hospital as in-patients for periods varying with the necessity of their cases.

Of the above numbers, 561, or 10 per cent. of all cases, were treated for some manifestation of syphilis, and, though this may appear a high percentage if taken to represent the average prevalence of the disease in this district, I am nevertheless of opinion that the facts observed are such as to encourage the belief that the frequency and virulence of this disorder are declining, while a larger proportion of persons affected yearly present themselves for treatment.

II. The hospital buildings are in good repair, and the accommodation has been found sufficient for all ordinary demands.

III. The health of the police force has been very good, nothing but minor ailments having come under observation, with one exception, where it was found necessary to invalid from the force a man suffering from old-standing constitutional disease.

The health of the prisoners has also been very satisfactory.

IV. Public vaccination has been steadily proceeded with; during the year, 1,804 persons have been vaccinated at the free dispensary. No case of small-pox has been reported in the district.

V. In April this year, instructions were issued for an inspection by the Medical Officer of all lepers and persons supposed to be lepers residing within the district; a systematic investigation was organised, and the results of the inquiry have been embodied in a separate report, now in the hands of the principal Medical Officer.

VI. During a year the meteorological conditions of which were those known to be favourable to the outbreak and spread of certain zymotic diseases, I have to report comparatively few cases which come under this heading.

An outbreak of typhoid fever occurring during the months of March and April, affecting European and native residents on the station, has formed the subject of a special report by me earlier in the year.

With the carrying out of the scheme now under consideration for supplying the station with pure water from a spring distant nearly two miles from this outskirts, there is every reason to believe that this disease will be stamped out so far as cases originating in the station are concerned.

Two or three limited outbreaks of diphtheria have also been recorded. The disease was prevalent in the neighbouring

territories early in the year, and the cases here were rather epidemic than endemic.

To the want of subsoil drainage and the absence of sanitary regulations, I attribute the repeated recurrence of the disease once introduced, evils which would make themselves more severely felt in a season remarkable for its heavy rainfall.

(Signed) M. E. LEICESTER,
Medical Officer.

Annual Report Medical Officer, Mohales Hoek, for the Year ending 30th June 1894.

I have the honour to submit to you a report of the medical work done in this district during the year ending 30th June 1894.

The following table shows the number of patients treated at the hospital and dispensary :—

(*a*.)	In-patients	77
(*b*.)	Out-patients :	
	(1.) New patients	4,383
	(2.) Subsequent attendances	1,844
	Total	6,304

There is a slight decrease in numbers compared with last year.

Syphilis is still prevalent, but there has been a steady decrease in the numbers presenting themselves for treatment during the last three years. Hereditary cases of the disease are getting more frequent, but the illness, as a rule, runs a mild course and is very amenable to treatment.

Cases of gastric trouble, principally dyspepsia, are numerous and they form almost half of the number of those who present themselves at the dispensary.

Nine hundred and twenty persons were vaccinated during the year ; of these 189 came under the new regulations. The people do not take kindly to vaccination. During the last six months only four presented themselves voluntarily to undergo the operation, although notices were issued from time to time urging upon them the necessity for vaccination.

A leprosy investigation is being made in this district as in others in Basutoland. Up to the present time, I have seen and examined 28 lepers in this district and 14 in Quthing.

There have been no epidemics during the year.

The health of the police detachment has been good.

BASUTOLAND. 1893–4.

The hospital buildings have lately been overhauled, and they are now in a good state of repair.

The sanitary condition of the camp is satisfactory. The water supply is ample and of good quality. I would recommend that the reeds round the cistern be cleared away and that a pump be got for the reservoir instead of having it open and dipping in buckets, as at present.

(Signed) W. M. MACFARLANE, M.D.,
Acting Medical Officer.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 130.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

ANNUAL REPORTS FOR 1893-4.

(For Reports for 1892–3 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 100.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
March 5, 1895.

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1895.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
95	Lagos	1892
96	Sierra Leone	,,
97	Fiji	,,
98	Rodrigues	,,
99	St. Helena	,,
100	British Bechuanaland	1892–93
101	British Guiana	,,
102	Newfoundland	1892
103	Jamaica	1892–93
104	Victoria	1892
105	Bermuda	1893
106	Gambia	,,
107	Hong Kong	,,
108	St. Vincent	,,
109	Gibraltar	,,
110	Bahamas	,,
111	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
112	Leeward Islands	,,
113	Barbados	,,
114	Malta	,,
115	Zululand	,,
116	British Honduras	,,
117	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
118	Falkland Islands	,,
119	Rodrigues	,,
120	Mauritius	,,
121	Straits Settlements	,,
122	Labuan	,,
123	Basutoland	1893–94
124	St. Lucia	1893
125	St. Helena	,,
126	Ceylon	,,
127	Fiji	,,
128	Grenada	,,
129	Sierra Leone	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 130.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

(For Reports for 1892–3, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 100.)

Sir W. G. CAMERON to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House, Cape Town,
(Extract.) August 4, 1894.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a despatch from the Administrator of British Bechuanaland, enclosing the annual reports of the Territory for the year 1893–4.

It would be convenient if printed copies of these reports could be sent out at an early date.

I concur with Sir S. Shippard in thinking that the progress of the Colony during the past financial year has been satisfactory, although I consider that the diminution in the export of produce of the Colony proper is not a healthy sign.

I do not propose to comment on the various suggestions which are made in the course of the reports, as it will be more convenient that they should, where necessary, be made the subject of separate despatches.

I am glad, however, to note the economy and increased efficiency attained by the transfer of the Post Office to the charge of the Cape Postmaster-General.

From the ADMINISTRATOR, Vryburg, to His Excellency the HIGH COMMISSIONER, Cape Town.

Administrator's Office, British Bechuanaland,
(Extract.) Vryburg, July 24, 1894.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for your Excellency's information, the following reports on the progress and condition of the Crown Colony of British Bechuanaland, and of the Bechuanaland Protectorate, for the year ending the 31st March 1894:—

		Page.
1.	The Colonial Secretary and Receiver-General	9
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3.	The Surveyor-General	14
4.	The Registrar of Deeds.*	
5.	The Postmaster-General	20
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13.	The Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate of Gordonia	42
14.	The District Surgeon of Vryburg	43
15.	The Matron of Vryburg Hospital	43
16.	The District Surgeon of Mafeking	44
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19.	The District Surgeon of Kuruman	46
20	The Assistant Commissioner for the Southern Protectorate	46
21.	The Assistant Commissioner of Palapye	48
22.	The Officer Commanding the Bechuanaland Border Police, including reports from Medical Officers	51
23.	The Engineer Officer in charge of Public Works.*	

* Not printed.

These reports show that the progress of British Bechuanaland during the past financial year has been eminently satisfactory.

(1.) The revenue during this period has been the highest received in any year since the establishment of Her Majesty's Sovereignty in this Territory and it bids fair to increase steadily.

The increased expenditure has been due solely to the part taken by the Bechuanaland Border Police in successful military operations in Matabeleland. The revenue exhibits an increase of upwards of 10,000*l.* over that of the preceding financial year, while, apart from war payments, the nominal expenditure would have shown a decrease of about 6,000*l.* on that of the previous year.

(3.) The value of land in the Crown Colony has risen. Notwithstanding this, the limited area of vacant Crown Land still available is offered for sale on very moderate and favourable terms.

(5.) The work of the Postal and Telegraph Department has been satisfactorily performed. The actual loss in carrying on the Department during the past financial year has been reduced to 1,329*l.* 5*s.* 1*d.*, while the revenue is increasing, so that before long the Postal and Telegraph Service of British Bechuanaland and the Protectorate will in all probability be self-supporting. The Post Office Savings Bank is productive of great public benefit.

There is a general movement, in which the Vryburg Chamber of Commerce is taking the lead, in favour of the reduction of inland and intercolonial letter postage to the uniform Cape rate of one penny per half-ounce, and also of the cost of telegrams to a uniform rate of one shilling for twelve words and one penny for every additional word.

(6.) During the past financial year, the Bechuanaland Protectorate was admitted into the South African Customs Union.

The Customs returns show that there has been no decline in local trade in British Bechuanaland; that there has been an increase of 78½ per cent. in the value of goods entered for removal to the Protectorate; and that in the value of goods removed under rebate through Bechuanaland to the territory of the British South Africa Company last year there has been an increase of 131 per cent.

In the quarter ending the 30th September 1893, the preparation in connection with the war in Matabeleland, combined with a reduction in rates, caused an increase in through traffic of no less than 642 per cent. over that of the corresponding quarter of the year 1892.

During the quarter ending the 31st March last, the value of goods removed under rebate through Bechuanaland to Matabeleland and Mashonaland was 72 per cent. greater than during the corresponding period in 1893.

There has been a steady decrease in the quantity of wool and mohair exported during the past three years. Owing to the ravages of locusts, the quantity of cereals exported from Bechuanaland to the Cape Colony was only one-sixth of the previous year's total.

The item, agricultural produce (including potatoes), shows an increase of about 110 per cent. over the exports for the preceding year.

The export of timber and firewood has decreased in consequence of the substitution of South African coal for wood at Kimberley and elsewhere.

The weight of skins, hides, horns, and ivory exported shows a decrease of 15 per cent., partly due to the fact that lung sickness has been of late less prevalent among native cattle. Efforts have been made, by means of stringent laws and by the imposition of a high license, with the concurrence of the Native Chiefs in the Protectorate, to prevent the total destruction of many beautiful kinds of big game, for which South Africa was formerly famous. The wanton destruction of these creatures, and especially the useless slaughter of vast numbers of female and young elephants, in past years is to be deplored. Ivory is now becoming very scarce south of the Zambesi. In 1892, the value of the ivory that passed through Mafeking was 3,500*l.* Last year it was less than 1,000*l.*, and, if the precautions now being taken fail of effect, the extinction of the elephant in South Africa may be regarded as a question of a comparatively short time.

(7.) The natives throughout the Crown Colony have been peaceable, law-abiding, and fairly prosperous. The amount of hut-tax collected, viz., 3,940*l.* 10*s.* only falls short of the estimate by 60*l.*, and the increase on the collection of the previous years amounts to 579*l.* 10*s.*

(8.) The report of the Master of the Chief Magistrate's Court shows a balance of Trust funds in hand amounting to 4,595*l.* 5*s.*, all invested in the Post Office Savings Bank at 3¾ per cent.

(9.–13.) The reports of the Civil Commissioners and Resident Magistrates of the several districts are indicative of general prosperity and steady progress and, taken in conjunction with the report of the Crown Prosecutor exhibit a comparative absence of serious crime.

The influx of young farmers from the Cape Colony and the neighbouring republics has been considerable for some time past and more than three-fourths of the farms in the district of Vryburg are now occupied.

The scheme adopted by the Vryburg Management Board for supplying the town with water from certain springs on the west has proved successful.

The town of Mafeking is now plentifully supplied with pure water through the enterprise of the members of a local syndicate.

Under a lease granted to them by the Chief Montsioa with the concurrence of his people, the water is brought from a spring in the Native Reserve to a receiving tank near the border of the commonage, through which it is conveyed in iron pipes to the European town, the total fall from the spring being 60 feet, and from the receiving tank 28 feet. The supply of water far exceeds the requirements of the present population of the European township, and the surplus water could be readily conducted by pipes through the Police Camp and down to Montsioa's village.

The public service sustained last year a severe loss by the death of Major Stanley Lowe, Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate of Taungs, who had done much good work in this Territory, where he was universally esteemed.

In spite of the damage done by locusts and excessive rains throughout the Territory during the past year, the new crops appear to be unusually promising, and no scarcity need be apprehended, at least as regards the Protectorate and the Molopo Native Reserve. The new wheel-tax imposed on all owners of vehicles for the purpose of providing funds for the repair of roads, appears to have occasioned much dissatisfaction among some of the native tribes, especially the Batlapin of Taungs. The rate levied is 10*s.* per annum for a waggon and 5*s.* for a cart. The Inspector of Native Reserves reports that large numbers of natives have already left the Crown Colony and settled in the Protectorate in order to evade payment of both hut-tax and wheel-tax.

Technical instruction is needed by the natives of Bechuanaland, but in other respects adequate provision has been made by missionary societies for their education. Efforts have been made to supply the want of education for European children. The best possible use has been made of the Government grant in aid of undenominational schools for European children in Vryburg and Mafeking, and also of farm schools in the District of Vryburg. Much however remains to be done; more school buildings and furniture and more teachers are urgently required.

The Vryburg Hospital is well managed and has proved a great boon to the community.

An outbreak of small-pox at Mafeking has been stamped out through the vigorous measures adopted by the Village Management Board with the support of the Government. A lazaretto was promptly established with complete isolation, vaccination was insisted upon and the Board was by Proclamation invested with coercive powers, which were used with satisfactory results.

(18.) In the Protectorate during the past year, the chiefs Sebele and Lenchwe have occasioned some trouble. Sebele's refusal to comply with an award made by the Assistant Commissioner of the Southern Protectorate in a dispute about cattle with a native named Chwene led to preparations for an expedition which was rendered unnecessary by the submission of the Bakwena chief at the last moment.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND. 1893–4.

A dispute between some of Khama's people and some of Sebele's men respecting boundaries and water rights led to loss of life, but was dealt with as an ordinary criminal case by the Assistant-Commissioner.

The aggression of the Bakhatla Chief Lenchwe on the territory of the Bamangwato threatened at one time to lead to hostilities between Khama and Lenchwe. This danger has been averted, and the Chiefs have agreed to submit to the award of a Commission appointed to arbitrate on the questions at issue.*

The plundering of Baralong caravans in the German Protectorate on their way from Damaraland, and the massacres of Bechuanas within the British Protectorate by the Korannas of Gobabi's under the late Andries Lambert have been put a stop to by the German Authorities, by whom that Chief was taken prisoner and shot.

The recent military operations in which the Bechuanaland Border Police took part in Matabeleland are too well-known to need more than a passing reference here.

(20.) Satisfactory progress has been made by the Department of Public Works both in the Crown Colony and Protectorate under the able supervision of Major Panzera.

In conclusion, I desire to express my cordial appreciation of the excellent work done by the members of the Bechuanaland Civil Service and also of the invaluable services of the Bechuanaland Border Police.

His Excellency the
Governor and High Commissioner,
Cape Town.

SIDNEY SHIPPARD,
Administrator.

* NOTE.—Since the above was written the award has been made and accepted.

REPORT of the COLONIAL SECRETARY and RECEIVER-GENERAL for the year 1893–94.

(Extract.) Vryburg, July 7, 1894.

I HAVE the honour to submit the annual report of this Department for the year ending the 31st March last.

The following are comparative statements of revenue and expenditure in British Bechuanaland, and the Protectorate, during the last five financial years:—

Revenue

	1889–90.	1890–91.	1891–92.	1892–93.	1893–94.
	£	£	£	£	£
Customs Revenue	—	2,448	12,579	13,326	16,392
Hut tax	2,246	3,410	1,975	3,450	3,941
Licenses	3,361	2,917	3,252	3,228	3,024
Revenue stamps	1,534	2,154	2,743	2,514	2,515
Transfer duty	2,497	2,730	2,996	2,993	3223
Auction duty	69	190	223	197	242
Fines and fees	292	772	565	654	959
Survey receipts	1,291	1,507	538	2,820	4,097
Post Office { Colony	1,366	2,204	3,096	2,535	} 5,195
Post Office { Protectorate	635	1,412	3,017	2,202	
Telegraphs	1,431	2,543	2,605	2,492	2,431
Quit-rents	3,287	4,330	3,758	3,871	5,574
Other rents	—	195	474	410	265
Sales of Government property	166	606	2,440	465	315
Sundries	134	215	340	125	169
Sundry receipts in aid	1,140	1,128	1,724	2,125	3,353
Contribution from British South Africa Company	—	2,475	3,100	406	—
Protectorate revenue	—	—	452	1,344	1,100
Total, excluding land sales	18,449	31,231	45,875	45,157	52,796
Land sales	1,099	11,270	5,061	187	2,574
Total £	19,548	42,501	50,936	45,344	55,370

Expenditure.

	1889–90.	1890–91.	1891–92.	1892–93.	1893–94.
	£	£	£	£	£
Pensions	963	1,250	950	887	905
Administrator's Department	2,709	3,374	3,016	3,274	3,161
Colonial Secretary and Receiver-General's Department	1,424	2,350	2,174	2,302	2,337
Store Department	578	516	—	—	—
Native affairs	515	871	898	1,410	11,77
Legal Department	1,331	3,092	4,141	3,882	4,206
District Administration	5,313	5,936	6,809	7,180	7,258
Posts and Telegraphs	7,121	9,661	15,621	14,846	12,593
Customs	—	—	1,122	1,167	1,392
Police	66,639	106,229	95,291	94,234	178,773
Education	—	248	307	568	750
Transport	1,309	774	533	914	1,045
Miscellaneous	2,281	2,240	4,298	3,788	4,752
Surveyor General's Department	3,879	11,014	8,332	6,920	6,670
Hospital	—	—	—	1,210	500
Public works recurrent	3,528	939	919	892	1,839
„ „ extraordinary		1,779	5,929	8,153	7,685
Assistant Commissioner, Palapye	815	2,408	2,085	851	865
„ „ Gaberones	—	1,160	1,642	1,536	1,435
Special payments	—	4,551	762	73	—
Concessions Commissions	—	—	—	—	585
Total £	98,405	158,392	154,929	154,087	237,928

REVENUE.

The revenue under customs may be considered as satisfactory, though it is true that the Crown Colony share of the total (12,816*l.*) shows no increase on the amount realised last year. The reason for this and the items of the substantial amount collected this year for the first time from this source in the Protectorate are fully dealt with in the report of the Collector of Customs.

The items, licenses, revenue stamps, auction duty, post-office, telegraphs, rents, sales of Government Property and sundries are normal and call for no remark beyond those which have been offered in the reports of officers charged with their collection.

The items, hut-tax, transfer duty, survey receipts, and quit-rents show a satisfactory increase.

The increase in the proceeds from hut-tax is due to the assistance received by the Inspector of Native Reserves by the addition of a collector to his staff, and would, no doubt, have been greater, had not the inspector himself been detached on special duties for some months in the past year.

The increases under the heads of transfer duty, Survey receipts, and quit-rents are noticeable as evincing an appreciation of land in the territory. It is evident that farmers are now able to take out their titles and pay their rents where the latter are reasonable.

The Protectorate Revenue as shown does not include the amount realized from the entry of the Protectorate into the Customs Union, which has resulted in an addition of 3,814*l.*, to the revenue, shown under the head of customs.

The revenue from other sources in the Protectorate is disappointing. The absence of any taxation of natives there is also likely to prejudice the Hut Tax receipts in this Territory, as numbers of natives are sure to remove to places where they are not liable for Hut or Wheel Tax. The fact that no taxation is levied on the natives in the Protectorate has, moreover, a bad effect both on them and on the natives in the Crown Colony; many of the former have an idea that the Government cannot, or dare not, tax them; while the latter suffer from a sense of injury in having to pay ten shillings for a hut and ten shillings for a waggon, while other and less loyal natives, whom we have protected and are protecting at great expense, go scot free.

Land Sales:—There have been a fair number of transactions under this head, and the sales concluded during the past year are not only directly profitable, but indirectly furnish a valuable addition to the Revenue. The majority of the purchasers are, or propose to become, genuine occupiers of the land, and the fact of land being occupied as well as sold much enhances the value of the transaction to Government, who receive thereby additional revenue from Customs and other heads. No great quantity of direct revenue can in the future be expected from sales of land in the Crown Colony, as, when the demands of the British South Africa Company, in consideration of the Mafeking Railway extension, have been satisfied, there will be but little suitable Crown Land left for disposal south of the Molopo.

EXPENDITURE.

Of the twenty items shown, those for ordinary civil administration all adhere pretty closely to the amounts shown in the revised estimate submitted in December last, and call for no observation.

The amount set down in the original and approved estimates for Police was 89,750*l.*, and on the outbreak of hostilities in Matabeleland it became necessary to ask for a supplementary vote, which was fixed at 80,000*l.* The actual expenditure was 178,773*l.* showing an excess of 9,023*l.*

The value of forage, clothing, saddlery, arms, ammunition, medical stores, and camp equipment, either unissued, unexpended, or on loan to the British South Africa Company on the 31st March last is, however, considerably in excess of this sum. The purchase of these articles was, however, necessary, and their being still on hand should result in a large saving under the head of "Other Charges" in the Police vote for the current year.

It may also be mentioned that a charge of 5,305*l.* for telegraph extension, made at the time for military purposes, is also included in this amount, and would appear to be now more properly chargeable to Posts and Telegraphs.

The excess of actual over estimated payments for all services is 5,506*l.*, which is, however, almost balanced by a surplus of 4,770*l.* of actual against estimated revenue.

Apart from the Matabele war expenditure, the financial statement I now submit to your Honour presents satisfactory signs that the progress of the country is, though gradual, distinct, and that the cost of its administration does not increase in proportion to the additional duties that have devolved upon the Government through an increase of population and fresh legislation. The revenue shows an increase of 10,026*l.* over that of the preceding year. The expenditure, apart from the war payments, would have shown a decrease of at least 6,000*l.* on that of the previous year.

F. J. NEWTON,
Colonial Secretary and
Receiver-General.

His Honour the Administrator,
Vryburg.

REPORT of the CROWN PROSECUTOR.

The state of crime in the Crown Colony during the year ending April 30th last has, with the exception of a slight increase in stock thefts, been more or less normal. In almost every instance these stock thefts were committed by Colonial Kafirs who are noted for their cattle-lifting proclivities. Of late years there has been a steady influx from the Cape Colony of these natives, who were obliged to move from locations on private farms, in consequence of the enforcement of the Native Locations Acts. They have settled on private farms and on Natives Reserves in this Territory and are a source of annoyance to adjoining farmers. In my opinion, stock theft would be greatly minimized by the strict enforcement of the laws dealing with Native Reserves and private locations, and by so amending the law relating to the removal of stock as to prevent such removal except on printed passes, properly stamped. Under existing law, cattle, &c., may be removed upon written passes signed by a magistrate, justice of the peace, field-cornet, or landholder.

An opportunity of forging the signatures of these persons is thus afforded, and these Colonial Kafirs do not hesitate, in the case of stolen stock, to avail themselves of the inadequacy of the law, and, as the police are, in many instances, unable to detect these forgeries, the amendment I have suggested appears to be expedient. I may mention that the necessity of printed passes bearing a particular mark or stamp has been discussed in the Cape Parliament during the present session, and I have reason to believe that the Cattle Removal Act will be amended accordingly.

There have been numerous convictions under the law prohibiting the supply of liquor to natives, but I am pleased to be able to report that in two instances only were the offenders licensed victuallers, this crime being almost entirely confined to degraded Europeans, and half-castes ("Cape boys") not members of any native tribe, kraal, or location. I am inclined to think that, were the liquor law so amended as either to include half-castes, irrespective of residence, within the category of the term "*Native*," or, while not prohibiting the sale of liquor to them, to declare that the liquor must be consumed on the licensed premises of the victualler, the illicit traffic would be materially lessened.

The Proclamation regulating the sale of Kafir beer in native locations within the limits of townships, has not, in the case of Vryburg, proved a beneficial measure, for drunkenness amongst native servants and others residing in the location has by no means decreased. I therefore venture to suggest the repeal of this Proclamation and the prohibition of the making, selling, or supply of Kafir beer within the limits of townships.

I am pleased to say that the law imposing a tax on vehicles, which I feared would be an unpopular enactment, has been most willingly and cheerfully observed.

The health of the prisoners throughout the Territory has been remarkably good. They have been usefully employed in brick-making, erecting public buildings and on other public works. The cost of their maintenance, so far as the Central gaol at Vryburg is concerned, is about equal to the value of the work they perform. I, however, consider that their labour would be more remunerative were they placed under stricter supervision, for they are at present, when outside the precincts of the gaols, under the charge of native guards, who are utterly incapable of exercising over them the necessary control and of enforcing proper discipline.

I have in former reports expressed an opinion in favour of the establishment of a Recorder's Court, with jurisdiction equal to that of the Supreme Court of the Cape Colony. I am still of the same opinion. The proceedings in several cases adjudicated upon during the year covered by this report clearly show that the jurisdiction vested in Resident Magistrates is excessive, and point to the necessity of a change in the present judicial system. If, on financial or other grounds, it be considered inexpedient to establish a Recorder's Court, I would suggest that serious criminal cases be tried either by a special Court consisting of the Chief Magistrate

and two Magistrates, or by the Magistrate of the district assisted by two or four assessors. The former course is preferable, for it would, I think, be more satisfactory and would, moreover, enable the Crown Prosecutor to supervise and conduct many important prosecutions, over which he has, under existing circumstances very little, and in some instances no, control whatsoever.

I desire again to call attention to the very urgent need of an Extradition Treaty between this Territory and the South African Republic.

With respect to my department, the Bechuanaland Protectorate offers few materials for an annual report, and as the Assistant Commissioners and Magistrates have doubtless in their annual reports furnished His Honour the Administrator with criminal statistics, it will perhaps be sufficient for me to remark that, with the exception of one case of murder in which the accused was found guilty and executed, the few crimes committed were not serious.

I take this opportunity of testifying to the very able and efficient manner in which Dr. Ward performed the duties attached to the office of Crown Prosecutor on the occasions when I was engaged on the Protectorate Concession Commission and the Bechuanaland Concession Court.

J. VINTCENT,
Crown Prosecutor.

REPORT of the SURVEYOR-GENERAL for 1893–4.

Surveyor-General's Office, Vryburg,
British Bechuanaland,
April 25, 1894.

(Extract.)

As a preface to my report for the year 1893–1894, I have the honour to state that on my arrival here on the 1st of May 1893 the first question which presented itself was the advantageous disposal of the vacant Crown Lands, the conditions of sale of which presented great difficulties. Provisional rights of selection of land had already been granted to two or three applicants, pending His Excellency the Governor's approval of the proposed Conditions of Sale, based on suggestions made by the late Surveyor-General, and partly approved of by His Excellency the Governor. During this year, and before the publication of the conditions of sale eventually sanctioned by His Excellency on the 7th December last, I registered a large number of applications for land, the applicants for which have since for the most part fulfilled the preliminary provisions prescribed in these conditions. The demand for land is increasing, but the land desired by applicants has now been applied for by the British South Africa Company, and I do not look forward to many more sales, except in the north

of Gordonia, where I think land could be sold at 1*s.* per morgen. An application was also received from the London and Pretoria Financial Company, the present representatives of the Bechuanaland Estate Syndicate offering to return the larger number of farms, comprising the 1,000 square miles purchased by the latter Company, and on which there was payable an annual quit-rent of 1,265*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.*, together with an arrear balance of 54*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.*, on receiving a certain number of farms in freehold. This matter has not yet been finally settled.

On the 3rd July 1893, a Commission, consisting of F. J. Newton, Esq., C.M.G., Mr. R. Girdwood, and myself, appointed to enquire into the claims of du-Toit and others for land surveyed into the Genesa Location, and to settle the boundaries of the Marokwen Location, proceeded to these places and returned to Vryburg on the 21st July. They submitted their reports, the recommendations contained in which were eventually approved of by His Excellency the Governor. The result was that du-Toit, and the other claimants received the land claimed by them, and the natives were granted the farm "Jakals Draai" in compensation as an addition to their location in lieu of the ground given up to the farmers above mentioned. As, however, the farm "Jakals Draai" was mortgaged the Imperial Government for portion of the Stellaland Debt it became necessary to recommend the release of this farm from its mortgage, and I suggested that the farms Biesjes Vlakte and Ongeluks Spruit should be mortgaged in lieu thereof. Pending further correspondence with the Secretary of State I have recommended the sale of all the farms mortgaged by public auction on condition that no sale take place if the total of the highest bids does not cover the mortgage still due to the Imperial Government, viz., 1,838*l.*, together with expenses of sale. His Excellency has approved of the sale of these farms on this understanding, to be held on the 3rd of May next.

About the 3rd of September last, I proceeded to Upington with Mr. St. Quintin, and Mr. Vintcent, the Crown Prosecutor, to hold a sitting of the British Bechuanaland Concession Court, for the purpose of taking evidence in the land and other claims in the Mier country and the Territory claimed by William Christian; and returned to this on the 24th of October last. The British Bechuanaland Concession Court held a sitting on the 13th of November at Vryburg and, on the 7th of December, 63 claims for farms, representing 981,700 morgen or 3,297 square miles of land, were confirmed. All these farms were situated in the Mier Country. The Vilander Concession Syndicate also obtained the confirmation of their claim to the right of Minerals in the Mier Territory.

I was absent on leave from the 20th of November 1893 to the 1st of January 1894. The three months ending the 31st March 1894 were chiefly occupied in working off arrears of work accumulated in my absence, together with current work, which was readily done after the arrival of Mr. Matthews, who took

up the appointment of Assistant Surveyor-General on the 1st of March last, and I here desire to record my grateful appreciation of the consideration accorded my recommendation by His Excellency the Governor in the appointment of this gentleman to that position. I can safely leave time and the future results of work done in this office to justify the wisdom of the appointment.

While at Upington, I proceeded to Kei Karriss Island with a view of ascertaining whether there was a possibility of utilizing it for agricultural purposes, and I am favourably impressed with what I saw. I propose recommending a preliminary survey of the Island with the view of ascertaining the practicability of leading the water from the Orange River over portion of it.

The subject of outspans has also cropped up during the year and I intend to recommend favourably an application made by Mr. E. C. Windley for a farm at Scheurberg on condition that he shall succeed in securing a sufficient permanent supply of water for the use of travellers there.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1893–1894.

Trigonometrical Survey.

Mr. Surveyor Bosman has sent in an interesting report shewing the difficulties he had to contend with during the last portion of the Trigonometrical Survey carried through the southern portion of the Mier country and northwards along the 20th Meridian, and describing the way the principal points had been marked on the ground, especially on the sand dunes, by iron pipes sunk in concrete. He follows with a description of the signals for observing erected over the centre of these marks, and describes the instrument used, which was made by Repsold and Sohne and ordered by Mr. Gill, the Astronomer Royal, for him. He then proceeds to state that the mean error of a single angle taken with this instrument was $m = \pm 0''{\cdot}628$ and the probable error $p = \pm 0''{\cdot}424$, which might have been better, considering the class of instrument used, were it not for the bad foundation on the sand dunes for steadying such an instrument. He further states that in the careful measurement of the Russian arc by Struve the mean angular error was $\pm 0''{\cdot}60$ and in that of the principal triangulation of Prussia the angular error was $\pm 0''{\cdot}65$.

Mr. Bosman describes how, with this instrument and his triangulation, he determined the geodetical position of the points, Aries Line, Staal Pan, Lavendel Vlei, and Vet River, giving the distances of each from the 20th Meridian as follows:—

Aries Line to 20th Meridian measured westwards,—11·287 C. Roods.
Staal Pan to 20th Meridian,—13·50 C. Roods.
Lavendel Vlei to 20th Meridian,—15·64 C. Roods.
Vet River to 20th Meridian,—17·47 C. Roods.

He also gives the plane co-ordinates of these points together with the bearings of Vet River, Lavendel Vlei, and Staal Pan, from Aries Line. It is a proof of Mr. Moorees's care in his rough work that his points came so well in line and so near the 20th Meridian, as defined by Mr. Bosman, and land surveyors can now easily define and extend this line northwards as the surveys in that District progress.

After comparing the latitude and longitude of the points Upington and Vet River, as obtained astronomically and geodetically, which agree within half a second in the case of Upington, and within ·27 of a second in the case of Vet River as given in Mr. Windlay's report last year, he regrets at not yet having been able to complete the reduction of the astronomical observations for azimuth in order to compare them with the geodetic results, but promises to furnish the same when complete. Mr. Bosman's work requires no criticism from me and is of a very high class and in every way worth the expenditure incurred. Besides this triangulation of Mr. Bosman's, which has been the means of defining the 20th Meridian properly on the ground, a small extension of the trigonometrical survey on a less elaborate scale, at the cost of 10*s.* per square mile, was made by Messrs. Wessels and Cloete covering 300 square miles as far as the Genesa Location and by this means a large number of the farms surveyed in the District during last year could be connected with the co-ordinate system of the country. Mr. Theal, who also had occasion to survey farms a long way from the furthest points of the triangulation of the country, carried on a minor triangulation at his own expense, on the understanding that if the proposal I had made to extend these minor triangulations was approved of he would receive some remuneration for his work.

During my absence in Gordonia, Messrs. Wessels and Cloete received instructions to survey Morokwen, and I have to record my extreme regret that no provision was made for connecting this survey with the co-ordinate System of the Territory.

These gentlemen have done the best they could under the circumstances by connecting it with the survey of the Southern Lands Company, which was surveyed on an extension of the trigonometrical system. This, however, is not a very satisfactory connexion to have, and I trust that I will not ask in vain that, during the present financial year, I may be allowed to cause a minor triangulation to be thrown over this part of the country, so as to connect this work, and the farms at present applied for under the new conditions of sale with the Trigonometrical Survey of British Bechuanaland.

Co-ordinate Surveys.

During this year the diagrams of 199 farms, and portions of farms surveyed on the basis of the Trigonometrical Survey of the Territory, have been filed in this office, viz. :—

56 farms by Surveyor Theal.

20 farms by Surveyor Dale.

38 farms by Wessels and Cloete.
35 farms by Goodger.
42 farms by Tindall and Windley.
7 portions of farms by Tindall and Windley.

Boundary between Montsioa and Bathoen.

Also the diagrams of 131 buildings and water erven, 110 of which were surveyed about Upington, and 21 at Taungs. Mr. Ashton has defined the boundary between Montsioa and Bathoen in the Protectorate on the ground, and has also surveyed a Mission erf, near Mafeking.

Keimoes.

Besides the above surveys, Messrs. Tindall and Windley have surveyed the erven at Keimoes, and several other private farms, the diagrams of which they have not yet handed in to this office.

Government Farms, Gordonia.

Eighteen farms have been surveyed in Gordonia for the Government, which I propose recommending for sale by public auction very shortly. Among the farms surveyed by Mr. Goodger at Upington are included the Crown Reserve, Commonage, and the Horse Station at Upington, and amongst those surveyed by Messrs. Tindall and Windley is included the Keimoes commonage, and the before-mentioned eighteen Government farms.

In the district of Vryburg, the only Government farms that have been surveyed are the farms Gannalaagter, and Biesjes Vlakte (by Messrs. Wessels and Cloete).

Among the erven surveyed by Mr. Goodger, eight belong to Government, besides a water erf, the Gaol, and Police Reserves, and the Reserve at the Magistracy.

The 21 erven at Taungs were surveyed on account of the Government, and have not yet been sold or leased. I propose, however, to recommend an auction sale shortly of these allotments.

Land Sales.

On the sale of the three farms Regenvlakte, Zoutpans Fontein, and Gannalaagter, instalments amounting to 266*l.* have been collected during the year. The first instalments on the sale of seven (7) pieces of ground adjoining river farms have been paid, amounting to 164*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.* In the township of Vryburg, eleven (11) erven have been sold, realizing 230*l.*

At Kuruman, first instalments on the sale of eight (8) erven realized 27*l.* 10*s.*

At Gordonia, the first instalments paid on the sale of thirty-two (32) erven were 182*l.* 10*s.*

South and east of Morokwen, 206,000 morgen have been applied for under the conditions of sale published in December last, the first instalment on which has been paid, amounting to 1,545*l.*

The amounts collected for land sales, survey reimbursements, and office fees, including the above-mentioned amounts for the year 1893–94, amount to 6,787*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.*; of this amount 3,638*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.* are reimbursements on compass surveys of farms taken up by the Cape Government for the railway grant. The office fees collected for the same farms were 122*l.* 10*s.*

Free Grants.

Free grants have been made of two erven to the English Church at Upington, of the Mission House and enclosed ground round it to the Wesleyan Mission Society at Mafeking, and of half an erf to the School Committee at Vryburg.

Leases of Business Sites in Locations.

During the year leases have been granted to Mr. Brophy at Taungs, and to Mr. Mattison at Khosis (Gathlose Native Reserve).

Departmental.

During this year, titles for 154 farms and 118 garden allotments and erven have been forwarded and signed by His Excellency the Governor, and 196 certificates of occupation were signed by His Honour the Administrator. This represents the preparation of 786 titles and 588 certificates of occupation, besides the drafting of 588 diagrams attached to certificates of occupation. Portions of these diagrams were made in office during the preceding financial year, but the above shows a very large amount of work and entailed careful comparison and checking before the deeds could be signed. Besides the above, 444 diagrams of farms, erven and sub-divisions, were examined, besides a large number of compass survey diagrams. Twenty (20) plans handed in by different surveyors were examined and checked, and 29 sub-divisional diagrams were examined and deducted from original titles for purposes of transfer. Seven (7) plans of the Territory were mounted and chartered up to date for different offices, and various compilations, diagrams, tracings, &c., were made by the draftsman for different purposes during the year. The work done during the year in this office is highly creditable to the staff and I do not wish for a better record.

F. V. WATERMAYER,
Surveyor General.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND. 1893–4.

REPORT on the POST OFFICE for 1893–4.

(Extract.)

On the 1st April 1893, the administration of the British Bechuanaland Post and Telegraph Services and the Postal Service in the British Protectorate was, with the consent of the Government, linked with the administration of the Postal and Telegraph Services of the Cape Colony and placed under my control.

This step, I am glad to be able to report, has resulted in a considerable diminution of expenditure; whilst the increase in the amount of revenue collected would point to the change having had no unfavourable effect upon the progressive development of both departments.

The following figures show the revenue and expenditure since the commencement of the Financial Year 1889–90 up to the close of the Financial Year 1893–94:

Financial Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Deficit.
	£	£	£
1889–90 - - -	3,432	7,121	3,689
1890–91 - - - -	6,153	9,658	3,505
1891–92 - - - -	8,710	15,410	6,700
1892–93 - - - -	7,363	14,846	7,483
1893–94 - - - -	8,390	12,443	4,053

It will be seen that the net deficit has been reduced from 7,483*l.* to 4,053*l.* and that the actual reduction in loss on the Balance Sheet is consequently 3,430*l.* During the current Financial year, it is anticipated that further savings will be effected and the revenue continue to improve; and I trust that before long the British Bechuanaland and the Protectorate Post and Telegraph Services may become self-supporting.

I should perhaps mention here that the value of the work performed by the Department for which no payment is received was as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Transmission of official correspondence -	399	15	10
Transmission of official telegrams -	2,323	19	1

or a total of 2,723*l.* 14*s.* 11*d.* Deducting this amount from the deficit shown above, the actual loss in carrying on the Department is 1,329*l.* 5*s.* 1*d.*

The total expenditure during the financial year just closed may be classified under the following headings:—

	£	s.	d.
A. Salaries and other personal emoluments	2,428	13	2
B. Horse and travelling allowance to Linemen	112	19	3
Travelling expenses in connexion with transfers, new appointments and inspections	60	3	8
Expenditure for overtime and additional force	73	4	6
Maintenance of Telegraphs	94	5	11
Postal Contingencies	332	10	4
Cost of Administration	200	0	0
Mail subsidies	8,679	13	9
Postage, &c. payable to Cape Colony	461	15	8
Total	£12,443	6	3

It will be seen that a very large proportion of the total amount is payable for the conveyance of mails. The charge for salaries and allowances of 2,428*l.* compares with a total of 4,228*l.* as provided in the estimates during the financial year 1892–3, illustrating the large economy which has resulted from the transfer of control.

The estimated expenditure for the year 1893–4 was 13,503*l.* while the actual expenditure was only 12,443*l.*

The revenue of 8,390*l.* contrasting with 7,363*l.* (the revenue collected during the preceding financial year) is made up as follows:—

	£
Postal	5,029
Telegraph	3,361

Of the postal total, 3,519*l.* was collected within British Bechuanaland proper and 1,510*l.* in the Protectorate.

The Telegraph collections in Bechuanaland include the amount paid by the Cape Railway Department for the maintenance of the railway telegraph lines from the Border to Vryburg, and by the British South Africa Company as their share of the cost of maintaining the Mafeking Telegraph Office. These collections also include 28*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* for telegraph stores sold, and 8*l.* 9*s.* for registered address fees, etc.

Mail Services.

The mails have continued to be carried with fair regularity during the year, the only months during which delays of a serious nature occurred being November and December, when the exceptionally heavy rains caused the Rivers Maropong and Notwani to rise to an unprecedented height and to remain in flood for periods of from three to seven days. In February last, the severe storms prevalent throughout British Bechuanaland resulted in a considerable damage to the Railway between Warrenton and Taungs, where extensive washaways occurred, and for four days mail communication with the Cape Colony was entirely suspended from this cause.

The number and value of the different descriptions of mail matter posted within British Bechuanaland and the Protectorate during the year were as follows :—

Letters.

	Number.	Value.
		£
For Delivery in Bechuanaland at 2*d.* -	35,139	292
For Delivery in Protectorate at 4*d.* -	19,286	321
For the Cape Colony, Natal, the Orange Free State, and the South African Republic at 2*d.* - - - -	124,917	1,040
For Mashonaland at 4*d.* - -	15,483	258
For the United Kingdom at 4*d.* and Foreign Countries at 4½*d.* - -	25,974	445
Post cards at 1*d.* - - -	4,407	26
Post Cards at 1½*d.* - - -	1,092	
Newspapers - - - -	39,650	82
Book packets and Samples - -	16,562	138
Parcels - - - -	2,912	97
Registration Fees - - -	7,319	122
Total - - - -		£2,821

Official Correspondence carried free of charge had a postage value of 399*l.* 15*s.* 10*d.* made up of :—

	Number.	Value.
		£ *s.* *d.*
Letters - - - - - -	46,163	384 13 10
Books - - - - -	14,498	15 2 0

In view of the very favourable results which have followed the reduction of the rate of Inland and Inter-Colonial Letter postage to one penny per half-ounce in the Cape Colony and the Orange Free State, and looking to the fact that the other South African Colonies and States will probably at an early date reduce their rates to the same level, it may be interesting to note that

the outside loss which British Bechuanaland could incur by adopting the same rate for letters addressed to any part of British Bechuanaland, the Cape Colony, the Orange Free State, the South African Republic and Natal (whilst maintaining the existing rate to the Protectorate and Mashonaland) would be 700*l.* without making any allowance for increase of traffic. As a matter of fact, however, I should estimate that the total loss during the first year would not exceed 450*l.* and would be a steadily decreasing item.

Money Orders.

From the 1st October, 1893, an exchange of Money Orders with the Orange Free State came into force and with the South African Republic from the 1st January, 1894. This cannot but prove of beneficial effect to the public of British Bechuanaland as well as a gain to the Postal Revenue without any corresponding expenditure.

The following is a Statement of the Money Order transactions effected during the year :—

Money Orders issued in Bechuanaland during the year ended 31st March, 1894.

Payable in	Number.	Amount.
		£ *s.* *d.*
British Bechuanaland	323	818 18 7
Cape Colony	2,971	7,764 8 5
Orange Free State	24	62 6 7
South African Republic	35	77 19 5
United Kingdom and Foreign Countries	573	2,158 14 0
Total	3,926	10,882 7 0

Money Orders payable in Bechuanaland issued during the year ended 31st March, 1894.

Issued in	Number.	Amount.
		£ *s.* *d.*
British Bechuanaland	323	818 18 7
Cape Colony	633	1,932 16 9
Orange Free State	43	137 15 6
South African Republic	20	82 15 9
United Kingdom and Foreign Countries	103	498 7 3
Total	1,122	3,470 13 10

Establishment of Savings Banks.

On the 1st July 1893, the Cape Colony Savings Bank System was extended to British Bechuanaland.

Renewal of the Agreement with the British South Africa Company.

The agreement with the British South Africa Company, under which, for the payment of 1,000*l.* per annum, the British Bechuanaland Government and its officials are permitted to make free use of the Company's lines in the British Protectorate, expired on the 14th November, 1893, but was renewed for a further period at the same amount; and arrangements were subsequently made for the privilege being extended to messages sent over the Company's lines in Matabeleland and Mashonaland.

Maintenance of Lines.

The Bechuanaland telegraph system consists of 170 miles of line and 316½ miles of wire and five offices.

There has been no exceptional expenditure incurred in the maintenance of lines and offices during the year, the lines being substantial and in good order. There have been no interruptions or delays to traffic of any moment and communication with neighbouring administration has been regularly maintained.

Transfer of Road Line between Mafeking and Vryburg to Railway; saving in Maintenance Charges.

In connexion with the extension of the Railway from Vryburg to Mafeking, arrangements have been made by the British South Africa Company for the erection of a telegraph line along the railway route, which runs at an average distance of about nine miles from the existing road route. Upon my pointing out, however, that it would be an unnecessary expense for two separate lines of telegraph to run and be maintained practically over the same route, and recommending that the existing line along the road be transferred to the railway with an additional wire for railway purposes, thus materially lessening the first cost of construction and after maintenance expenses of the line, his Excellency the High Commissioner approved of my suggestion, as also did the Managing Director of the British South Africa Company.

This work is now well in hand, being carried out under my direction at the expense of the Company.

So far as the Bechuanaland Government is concerned, this transfer will be a distinct advantage, the line being more secure and more readily and economically maintained, as the services of one lineman can be dispensed with and the allowances for keep of two horses withdrawn.

The Bechuanaland Government will, moreover, when the transfer has been completed, derive an additional revenue of about 250*l.* per annum for the maintenance of the railway wire upon its poles.

General.

During the year, the work of the Department has been very efficiently conducted by the executive staff of officers in British Bechuanaland. The increase of revenue collected means additional work falling upon a staff of limited numbers and already fully occupied. There is now no margin for expansion and, should the work continue to increase, it will be necessary to appoint additional officers.

It has been arranged that any vacancies that may occur shall be filled up by the appointment, on loan, of employés from the Cape Colony Service. By this means, economy and efficiency will be promoted; and I trust, therefore, that there may be the less hesitation in approving of any recommendations that I may find it necessary to make in the way of increased remuneration to the officers already in the Service who have, by their diligence and faithful services, contributed to the successful working of the Department.

S. R. FRENCH,
Postmaster-General,
Cape Colony and British
Bechuanaland.

General Post Office, Cape Town.

REPORT of the COLLECTOR OF CUSTOMS for 1893–4.

(Extract.) Mafeking, May 21, 1894.

I HAVE the honour to present, herewith, my report for the financial year 1893–4.

Entry of the Protectorate into the Customs Union.

By virtue of agreements made between the Governments of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope, the Orange Free State, and the Bechuanaland Protectorate the last named Territory was admitted to the South African Customs Union on 1st July, 1893; the Proclamations requisite to give effect to the terms and conditions of the Protocol and supplement to the Convention having been signed by His Excellency the High Commissioner on 12th and 26th June, 1893.

Owing to there having been exceptionally large importations of goods under rebate of Customs Duty from the Cape Colony at the end of 1890, immediately prior to the admission of British Bechuanaland to the South African Customs Union, it was deemed expedient to levy a tax equal to the amount of the rebate granted upon all excessive stocks in this territory on 31st December, 1890. In the beginning of June 1893, it was found that abnormally large consignments of goods were being sent "in bond" to Mafeking and the local merchants were accordingly warned that if any very great removal of goods "under rebate" to the Protectorate took place the course of taxing stocks, which was followed in the case of

British Bechuanaland would be adopted in the Protectorate. This warning, combined with the withdrawal in this Territory of the grant of rebate on goods exported from 21st June, had the desired effect and as it was calculated that the removals to the Protectorate for the quarter did not exceed 20 per cent. above normal, the necessity for taxing stocks was obviated. From the records of the Department, it is now found that the total value of goods sent under rebate to the Protectorate during that quarter was only 16½ per cent. above the quarterly average for the financial years 1891–2 and 1892–3.

Imports.

The following is a statement of the total "declared value" (at port of shipment) of goods imported during the last five years.

Financial Year.	For consumption in			Total.
	British Bechuanaland.	The Bechuanaland Protectorate.	British South Africa Company's Territories *viâ* Bechuanaland.	
	£	£	£	£
1889–90 -	—	—	—	62,213
1890–91 -	—	—	—	132,607
1891–92 -	91,812	18,086	36,409	146,307
1892–93 -	83,843	15,107	8,909	107,859
1893–94 -	79,282	26,967	20,607	126,856

As compared with the preceding financial year, there was a decrease of 4,561*l.* during the past year in the value of goods entered for consumption in British Bechuanaland, but this small percentage does not necessarily imply any decline in local trade, for, whereas in former years there was no means of ascertaining what duty-paid goods were exported from this Territory to the Protectorate, during last year it has been possible to keep an account of such, and the value is now deducted from the total of the Crown Colony's imports, and added to that of the Protectorate. It is probable that the actual consumption in British Bechuanaland was slighty in excess of that during the preceding year and that the duty-paid stocks on hand at the end of last March were not quite so large as in March 1893.

The value of goods entered for removal to the Protectorate during last year exceeded that of the preceding year by the sum of 11.860*l.*, being an increase of 78½ per cent. This is attributable

partly to the fact that the Military operations in Matebeleland necessitated additional expenditure in the Protectorate and partly to the inclusion in the accounts now of that class of goods which had been sent thither "duty paid" in former years without being reported to this Department.

As compared with the financial year 1892–3, the value of goods removed, "under rebate," through Bechuanaland to the British South Africa Company's Territories last year shows an increase of 11,698*l.* or 131 per cent. In last year's report attention was directed to the fact that the railway rates for goods to the Transvaal were lower than those to Vryburg, and that the Bechuanaland Trade route to the north suffered materially in consequence. As a result of representations which were made to the Cape Government, the charges upon goods conveyed over the Bechuanaland Railway for Mafeking and places north thereof were reduced from 1st June 1893. This had an immediate effect upon the trade through this Territory, the removals for the June quarter being 64 per cent. greater in value than during the corresponding period in 1892. The preparations which were being made during the following quarter in connection with the recent war in Matabeleland, combined with the reduction in railway rates, caused an increase in "through traffic" of no less than 642 per cent. over the total for the quarter ended 30th September 1892. During the quarter ended 31st March last, the value of goods removed "under rebate" through this Territory to Matabeleland and Mashonaland was 72 per cent. greater than in the corresponding period of 1893.

The following is a return of goods received at Vryburg Station during the last three financial years:—

——		1891–2.	1892–3.	1893–4.
Total weight received -	lbs.	39,469,413	12,611,596	38,038,384
Waggon-loads cleared at local Custom House -	No.	4,302	847	1,146
Weight of goods cleared at local Custom House	lbs.	31,068,864	6,220,497	8,373,329

The great increase in total weight received last year as compared with 1892–93 is chiefly accounted for by the railway construction material for the extension to Mafeking. This, being duty free, was not reported at the local Custom House, where the goods entered for the South African Republic, Mafeking, and places north thereof, for which waggon passes were granted, exceeded in weight the quantity cleared the previous year by 35 per cent.

Exports

The General Manager of Railways has very kindly supplied this department with statistics showing the weight of goods removed per rail from Bechuanaland stations to stations in other

BRITISH BECHUANALAND. 1893–4.

parts of South Africa. The following is a summary of the information thus obtained:—

Destination and Classification.	Financial year, 1891–2.	Financial year, 1892–3.	Financial year, 1893–4.
CAPE COLONY.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
General merchandise	1,210,938	509,982	418,974
Wool and mohair	673,585	558,912	487,797
Grain and cereals	4,243,159	7,331,313	1,153,481
Agricultural produce, not otherwise specified	319,920	231,019	489,471
Timber and firewood	7,652,431	34,890,168	32,795,445
Minerals and gravel	805,746	517,981	91,154
Skins, hides, horns, and ivory	980,681	680,497	578,384
	15,886,460	44,719,872	36,014,706
ORANGE FREE STATE.			
General merchandise	97,785	22,250	5,872
SOUTH AFRICAN REPUBLIC.			
General merchandise	—	3,149	9,681
Grain and cereals	—	433	—
Total lbs.	15,984,245	44,745,704	36,030,259

From the above statement, it will be observed that there has been a steady decrease in the quantity of wool and mohair exported during the past three years. As the majority of it comes from the western districts of the Transvaal, it is possible that most of what the Bechuanaland Railway lost in this respect was conveyed by the Netherlands Railway Company; but some decline may be accounted for by the proved unsuitability, at present, of many portions of this Territory for sheep-farming.

In my last report, it was stated that, owing to the damage done by locusts in Bechuanaland, there would probably not be such a large surplus of grain and cereals for export during 1893–4 as in the preceding year. This prediction has unfortunately proved to be correct; the quantity sent to the Cape Colony last year being only one-sixth of the previous year's total. It would not, however, be just to debit the locusts with the whole of the missing five-sixths; for there was a larger consumption by the Bechuanaland Border Police horses in the Northern Protectorate and there are larger stocks of old mealies remaining on hand than there were last year.

The item "Agricultural produce not otherwise specified," (including potatoes) shows a gratifying increase of about 110 per cent. over the exports for the preceding year.

The export of timber and firewood has been decreasing throughout the past financial year in much the same proportion as it increased previously. The monthly average for June quarter 1893 was 1,838 tons, whilst the monthly average for last quarter fell to 987 tons. This is doubtless the effect of the partial

substitution of Colonial coal for wood as an article of fuel on the Diamond Fields.

The decrease of 15 per cent. in the weight of skins, hides, horns and ivory exported may not be altogether a matter for regret. At least half of the total weight probably consisted of hides from cattle which had died in the Protectorate from "lung-sickness." It is stated that on the average about three to four thousand head of cattle die annually from this disease at each of the principal native stations in the Protectorate, but in spite of this about 6,500 head of cattle are removed annually to British Bechuanaland and other places for draught and slaughter purposes. The quantity remaining is so large that the export of cattle may be materially increased when the railway has been extended, provided the rates of carriage are favourable. Elephants are now scarce south of the Zambesi and the value of ivory passing through Mafeking, which was upwards of 3,500*l.* in 1892, was less than 1,000*l.* in 1893. The value of ostrich feathers received here from Lake Ngami and the Desert is probably 4,000*l.* per annum. Karosses, sjamboks, and other native manufactures from the produce of the chase from the Protectorate are valued at about 8,500*l.* per annum. There are a large number of horns from oxen and wild animals traded for yearly. The value of these it is difficult to ascertain, but probably 1,000*l.* per annum is somewhat under the total.

Customs Duties Collected.

The following is a statement of cash receipts during the past year:

	£	*s.*	*d.*
From the Cape Colony, being three-fourths of full duty upon goods removed for consumption in British Bechuanaland from January to December 1893	11,857	10	7
From the Cape Colony, being three-fourths of full duty upon goods removed for consumption in the Protectorate from 1st July to 31st December 1893	538	11	7
	12,396	2	2
Deduct share of duty upon goods returned to the Cape Colony	51	10	6
	12,344	11	8
Collected at Taungs: full duty upon first importation		11	4
Collected at Vryburg: share of duty on post packets and full duty on goods from the Transvaal	29	15	0
Collected at various stations in the Protectorate from 1st July 1893	240	1	7
Collected at Mafeking upon first importation and upon delivery from Bond; share of the British Bechuanaland and Protectorate Governments	4,014	15	0
Total revenue receipts	16,629	14	7

The following amounts have been treated as "Deposits":—

Payable to the Cape Colony.

	£	s.	d.			
Collected at Mafeking on goods entered from Bond, for consumption in the Customs Union, one-fourth of full duty	1,258	9	4			
Collected at Mafeking on goods entered from Bond for export, The whole of duty, less rebate	684	6	11			
Collected at Mafeking and Vryburg upon packets detained by the Post Office for Customs examination, one-fourth of full duty	4	2	1			
Total due to the Cape Government for 1893				1,946	18	4
Amount of duty deposited by Messrs. Judge and Watson as security and subsequently returned to them				13	0	7
The gross receipts for 1893–94 being				£18,589	13	6

as compared with 14,697*l.* 8*s.* 8*d.* in 1892–93 and 13,225*l.* 7*s* 10*d.* in 1891–92.

The "Protectorate" share of the above revenue receipts is comprised as follows:—

Share from Cape Colony to 31st December 1893	538	11	7
Less on goods returned	50	12	6
	487	19	1
Share of removals from Mafeking to 31st March 1894	3,033	8	4
Full duty collected in Protectorate	240	1	7
Full duty collected in Mafeking on behalf of Protectorate Offices	52	10	0
	£3,813	19	0
The British Bechuanaland share of Customs Revenue was	12 816	13	7
Deduct share of duty on goods returned to the Cape Colony	0	18	0
	£12,815	15	7

The apparent decrease in the net Customs Revenue of the Crown Colony is accounted for by the entry of the Protectorate into the Customs Union last July and the necessary credit to the latter Territory of the duty upon all goods sold from open stocks in Mafeking. This class of business in former years made the consumption in British Bechuanaland appear somewhat greater than it actually was, and had correspondingly increased the revenue of the Crown Colony.

Bonded Warehouses.

The following is a return showing the number of packages and value of goods bonded in Mafeking during the last two years :—

	1892–93.		1893–94.	
	Number of Packages.	Oversea Valuation.	Number of Packages.	Oversea Valuation.
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Balances in hand 1st April	1,983	2,753 8 10	2,478	3,502 18 1
Received during year -	9,625	15,774 12 9	13,582	28,267 15 1
Making totals of - -	11,608	18,528 1 7	16,060	31,770 13 2
Delivered during year -	9,130	15,025 3 6	13,597	27,215 0 6
Balances in hand 31st Mar.	2,478	3,502 18 1	2,463	4,555 12 8

These figures indicate what a great convenience the bonding system at Mafeking is to those local importers who have connections in the Protectorate and the British South Africa Company's Territories.

General.

The restrictions placed on traffic between Bechuanaland and the South African Republic owing to their Customs tariffs are frequently found to be prejudicial to the interests of legitimate trade. It would benefit residents in both countries if arrangements were made whereby wheaten and mealie meal could be brought into the Customs Union, and cattle and all kinds of agricultural produce could be taken into the Transvaal free of the vexatious customs duties which at present handicap those traders who respect the laws of the land in which they dwell in spite of the

temptations offered by a very lengthy border, which is of necessity very inadequately guarded on both sides.

Ernest C. Baxter,
Collector of Customs.

The Colonial Secretary, Vryburg.

Report of the Inspector of Native Reserves for 1893–4.

(Extract.) Request, April 27, 1894.

I have the honour to report, for the information of His Honour the Administrator, that the amount of 3,940*l.* 10*s.* was collected on account of Hut Tax from 1st April 1893 to 31 March 1894: this amount falls 60*l.* short of the estimate, but it can scarcely be called a deficiency as the amount is already in hand and would have been collected before the end of the financial year had not the recent heavy rains impeded one's progress through the country which, for the last four months, has been in a state of swamp.

I attach a Return* of the monthly collections from 1st April 1893 to 31st March 1894, and the corresponding amounts for the previous year, showing an increase of 579*l.* 10*s.*

I may state that I hold that the collection for the last year has been very fair, considering that the greater portion of the natives have been put to great straits, due to the scarcity of grain, last season's crops having been very bad, owing to the ravages committed by locusts, &c.

It is to be hoped that this season's crops will show a good yield.

The collector of Hut Tax has displayed considerable interest in his duties and has given me complete satisfaction.

C. St. Quintin,
Inspector of Native Reserves.

To the Secretary to His Honour the Administrator,
Vryburg.

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* Not printed.

REPORT of the COMMISSIONER AND RESIDENT MAGISTRATE, VRYBURG, for 1893–4.

(Extract.)

There has been satisfactory progress in the Division during the past year, the influx of farmers alluded to in my previous Reports having continued. These men usually bring in a fair amount of stock with them and are therefore of more benefit to the country than some of the old Stellaland farmers who have not had sufficient capital or stock to occupy their farms beneficially. I estimate that now over three-fourths of the farms in the portion of the district formerly known as Stellaland are occupied. Several farmers are now taking up the country to the West of Geneva, but the bulk of this land is in the hands of the Cape Colonial Government and one or two companies, who, up to the present time, have made little or no use of it. The Cape Government have, however, for some time past had a gentlemen engaged in improving the water supply on their farms with, I understand, satisfactory results. There can be no doubt as to the suitability and importance of British Bechuanaland as a cattle-raising country, and I am surprised that cattle ranching on a large scale, which offers such good prospects of success, has not been started. There is very little disease amongst cattle, with the exception of lung sickness, the risk of which can be diminished with care and almost entirely averted by fencing. The percentage of increase is also, I believe, higher than in other parts of South Africa, and cattle keep their condition through the winter, which enables the farmers to obtain remunerative prices in the early spring months, when fat stock is always in great demand. The main thing required is the fencing in of farms, which would prevent the spread of disease, check cattle stealing and loss from straying, as well as materially lessen the cost of herding. I fear, however, that little will be done in this direction until Part I. of the Cape Colonial Act, No. 30 of 1883, is taken over, or some similar provision made by which adjoining proprietors have to contribute to the cost. At present fencing poles are cheap and fencing can be done for about 25*l.* to 30*l.* per mile, and as the boundary of a 3,000 morgen farm is about 14 miles, the cost, at 30*l.* per mile would be approximately 420*l.* or 210*l.* the half cost, an amount which would, under the Cape Act represent an annual repayment of 21*l.* 14*s.*, extending over 15 years, if the proprietor were not in a position to pay the 210*l.* at once and the fencing had to be done by the adjoining proprietors. This sum, which could be readily borne by any farmer who was really making beneficial use of his farm, would almost be saved in herding alone. Unfortunately the fencing poles in the Territory are being rapidly cut down and

many are being exported, and I fear that, when the necessity for fencing has been made apparent, poles will be much more expensive.

A stock fair has been established in Vryburg during the past year, and its success will be apparent when it is stated that it was at first held quarterly, then bi-monthly, and for the next few months it is to be held monthly. It is no doubt a great benefit to the farmers and the Territory generally.

The increasing farming population renders the necessity for Divisional or Field-cornet posts, alluded to in former reports, greater than ever.

There has not been much horse-sickness this season, and, with the exception of lung-sickness, which has been prevalent, stock generally has been healthy. Foot-and-Mouth disease has entirely disappeared.

Locusts have appeared in much the same quantities as in former years, but their ravages have not been serious and the destruction to grass may be said to be unappreciable.

The Wheel Tax which has recently been imposed has met with general approval, as it is seen that it fairly places a portion of the expense of maintaining the roads on those who make use of them instead of putting it all on the landed proprietor, as formerly.

The export of wood still continues and the greater portion of the country within easy distance of the railway has been deforested.

From the attached statement of rainfall* for the past two years, it will be seen that there has been a good supply; the vleis are generally fuller than they have ever been before, and it is worthy of note that in January, when 6·85 inches fell, the floods were higher than in January 1893 when 10·24 inches fell. There has been no exceptionally heavy rain this year, 1·37 inches being the most during any one day, and it appears to me, therefore, that the high floods must be due to other causes. I am inclined to attribute them to the fact that as the country becomes more occupied the grass is fed off and the cattle tracks, &c., become drains, and consequently the same amount of rainfall creates a larger flood than formerly.

There has not been much serious crime in the District, though stock stealing is still on the increase, owing to the number of colonial natives and half-castes who have come into the Territory and are allowed to squat on farms. This will, in my opinion, become a very serious evil if not checked or controlled.

* Not printed.

During the past year, an account has been kept of the expense and estimated earnings of the prisoners in gaol; the cost is as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Provisions and Fuel	788	7	10
Clothing	300	7	0
Clothing for discharged Prisoners	20	6	4
Tools	67	16	0
Salaries, Rations and Clothing for Gaol Officials	937	5	3
	2,114	2	5
Estimated Value of labour of prisoners engaged in cooking	120	0	0
	£1,994	2	5

The total value of the labour performed during the year is estimated by the Foreman of Public Works and myself at 2,212*l.* 0*s.* 3*d.*; each convict's work being calculated roughly according to its value at from 1*s.* 6*d.* to 10*s.* 0*d.* per day, so that the gaol may be considered to be self-supporting, the more so as the cost of provision for lunatics, lepers, &c., which is, of course, no part of the expense of the gaol proper, is included in the amount charged.

The Public Buildings are, with the exception of the Gaol, adequate for present requirements. Additional accommodation is about to be provided at the gaol for lunatics, who unfortunately have often to be detained in custody. Further additions are, however, also wanted.

The Divisional Council have expended a considerable amount on road-making during the year, and I trust will shortly obtain the services of a road inspector and keep a road party permanently employed. Their finances will not be much augmented by the proceeds of the wheel tax, as, in anticipation of this revenue, a very low road rate was levied.

The Board of Management have also spent a good deal of money on street making, tree planting, &c. and have also purchased half a farm adjoining the commonage on which there is a large vlei or pan. A dam is in course of construction and a furrow being cut, and it is hoped a good supply of water will shortly be available for the benefit of the town. The value of such a supply can hardly be overestimated, particularly in a place which is often practically rainless in the spring.

There is still a little prospecting for gold and minerals going on in parts of this Division, but, though I am aware that some persons are sanguine of success, I have as yet heard of no practical results.

Additions have been made to the Public School buildings during the past year and the whole put in proper repair. The school is well attended, but further additions are necessary in order to extend its advantages to residents outside Vryburg by enabling boarders to be taken in. A Chamber of Commerce and a Public Library have been established.

R. TILLARD,
Civil Commissioner.

REPORT of the CIVIL COMMISSIONER AND RESIDENT MAGISTRATE of MAFEKING for 1893–4.

Office of the Civil Commissioner and
Resident Magistrate, Mafeking,
(Extract.) April 22, 1894.

I HAVE the honour to report that, during the past year, steady progress has been made throughout this district.

The rain-fall this season has been considerable, the total during the twelve months amounting to 34·52 inches.

The natives this year have cultivated a much greater extent of land than they did last year, and there appears to be every probability that large crops of mealies, Kafir corn, and pumpkins will be gathered; I regret to have to state that locusts have made their appearance in parts of this district, but fortunately the swarms are not nearly so large as those which came over last year, and the crops are so far advanced that very little damage can be done.

Lung-sickness has frequently shown itself amongst the cattle in different parts of the district, but whenever an outbreak has been reported prompt measures have been taken to prevent its spreading.

Nearly all the cases of this dreaded disease have been traced to cattle which have been brought from or through the Protectorate, and, until a universal system of fencing the farms is adopted, it will be almost impossible to totally eradicate this disease from the district.

During the last year there has been a great diminution in stock-stealing cases.

The war with the Matabele greatly increased the trade of Mafeking; large quantities of supplies were forwarded from and through Mafeking. Since the occupation and settlement of that country by the British South Africa Company, a considerable increase in the traffic to the North has been apparent; every week waggons and settlers are passing through Mafeking, bound for Matabeleland.

The granting of the railway rebate by the Cape Colonial Government Railways to the merchants here has added considerably to the trade between Mafeking and the South African

Republic, and now allows the local store-keepers to compete upon favourable terms with those of the Transvaal.

The want of a proper water-supply has been for years past the great drawback to the inhabitants of Mafeking; all the water that is used in the town had to be drawn from wells situated near the Molopo, at a distance of quite half a mile from the town.

A local syndicate has now, by agreement with the chief Montsioa, and the Village Management Board, and under Legislative sanction, obtained the right to lead water from a spring upon the Native Reserve through the township in pipes.

The Government at the commencement of the past financial year promised 250*l.* upon the pound-for-pound principle towards the erection of a building to be used as a public school; a corresponding amount has been subscribed by the inhabitants, and the town is now in possession of a substantial school building. A separate boy's school is, however, still urgently needed. The Public School was opened last August with one male teacher. The number of pupils has increased, and a qualified lady teacher has since been added to the staff.

Throughout the year, the Chief Montsioa has loyally assisted in carrying out the laws, and has done his utmost to prevent his people from illicitly obtaining brandy.

Tree planting in the town has been well carried out by a number of the inhabitants, and through the co-operation of the Village Management Board many trees have been planted in the streets. The drawbacks to tree planting in Mafeking have, hitherto, been the white-ants, and want of water.

The Village Management Board of Mafeking, with the consent of the Government, has laid out a number of garden plots along the Molopo, these have been taken up and cultivated, and the local market is now well supplied with every description of vegetable at reasonable rates.

The want of an Extradition Treaty with the South African Republic, and of power to compel the attendance of witnesses, often interferes with the administration of justice.

During the year a number of Barolong from the different chiefs in this and other districts went off upon a trading trip to the German Territory; they appear to have exchanged horses for cattle, and reported that upon their return journey, with about 2,800 head of cattle, they were attacked by the Korannas under the late chief Andries Lambert; some of their number were killed and all the cattle were taken from them. In September, the inhabitants of Mafeking became very much alarmed at the proximity of small-pox, which was raging at Johannesburg, to which place many of the Mafeking Barolong go to work in the mines. Prompt measures were taken to enforce compulsory vaccination in the town.

A large furrow has been cut by certain farmers in the South African Republic by which means a very large quantity of water is being drawn off from the Molopo, the surplus not being

returned to the stream, but allowed to run to waste in the veld. This, if permitted to continue, will seriously prejudice all the lower riparian proprietors in British Bechuanaland.

There has been very little horse sickness in this district during the year.

A number of farmers from Natal and the Transvaal have come into this district during the past year and have purchased farms.

In consequence of so much land being unoccupied in this district, it has been found impracticable to have a divisional council, but it is to be hoped that before very long, when the vacant land is sold and occupied, it may be possible to establish a divisional council.

The health of the inhabitants, both in the town and country, has been generally very good. During the year, three natives suffering from leprosy have been sent to the Leper Asylum at Robben Island.

The roads and drifts in this district are not in a very satisfactory condition. As, unfortunately, there is no divisional council there are no funds available for putting them into a proper state of repair, but from the 1st April 1894, the new wheel-tax law will come into operation. Under this law, every resident in the Crown Colony of British Bechuanaland will be compelled to take out a licence of 10*s.* per annum for each waggon and 5*s.* per annum for each cart. This tax should bring in a fair amount of revenue, which, if judiciously expended in repairing the roads and drifts or fords, should suffice to put them into a proper state of repair.

The health of the prisoners has been good, and there have been no deaths. A large amount of useful work has been performed by the prisoners during the year.

Quarters for constables, which are very greatly needed, are about to be built.

The public buildings are in a good state of repair.

The spiritual welfare of the community is well provided for. There are three churches in the European township, Episcopalian, Dutch Reformed, and Wesleyan; one under the supervision of the Episcopalian clergyman in the location attached to the town, and one in the native stad under the supervision of the Rev. A. Sharpe, the Wesleyan Missionary, who has done good work among the Barolong.

The people of Mafeking are fond of sport, and enjoy cricket, football, tennis, riding, shooting, horse-racing, golf, croquet, and athletic sports generally.

GEORGE J. BOYES,
Civil Commissioner and
Resident Magistrate.

The Colonial Secretary,
Vryburg.

REPORT of the CIVIL COMMISSIONER AND RESIDENT MAGISTRATE of the TAUNGS DISTRICT for 1893–4.

SIR, Taungs, April 24, 1894.

IN forwarding a report on the condition of this district during the 12 months ended on the 31st March 1894, I am placed at some disadvantage, owing to the fact that I assumed the duties of Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate at Taungs seven weeks only before the close of the financial year.

The public service sustained a severe loss in the death, on the 11th August last, of Major Stanley Lowe, late Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate at Taungs—an officer universally esteemed and respected by Europeans and natives alike throughout the district. A successor was not appointed till the 8th February 1894, and the duties of this office were carried on in the meantime by Mr. C. R. Chalmers.

The apprehensions entertained by the late Major Lowe as to the prospects of the coming season, (viz., that reaped in June 1893) have unfortunately proved to have been only too well founded. The lateness of the rains—whereby ploughing operations were retarded till late in the season—and the subsequent visits of large swarms of locusts combined to bring about an almost total failure of the grain crop. The natives, on whose improvidence the experience of former similar seasons has apparently had no effect, have consequently suffered greatly from poverty and lack of food, and a great number have been compelled to repurchase their own grain on credit from the local storekeepers. Good crops should be reaped this season, but the proceeds of the harvest have been to a great extent mortgaged, while the price of grain is likely to be abnormally low, owing to the large stocks now held by Kimberley produce merchants and the abundant supply obtainable from Basutoland.

Unless, therefore, the crop reaped this year is exceptionally large (as it bids fair to be) the natives may find some difficulty in discharging their outstanding liabilities, finding money for increased taxation in the shape of a wheel tax, and providing themselves and families with food for the ensuing twelve months.

The foot-and-mouth disease, which prevailed among cattle at the end of the last financial year, has long since disappeared and the restrictions placed by the Cape Government on the exportation of cattle from this Territory have been withdrawn.

Lung sickness has occasionally appeared in different parts of this district, chiefly among the cattle of the natives, who seem however, to be fully alive to the necessity for the adoption of stringent measures in dealing with this disease, and I am not aware of any case in which infection has spread beyond the cattle post in which the disease first made its appearance.

Whether it be due (as is alleged) to the high quit-rents or to other causes, the fact remains that considerably more than half the farms in this district are still unoccupied. A considerable number of the high quit-rent farms were mortgaged to their present owners by the original grantees before the date of the Land Commission award, and those who have taken such farms in satisfaction of debt naturally cry out against the heavy quit-rent with which they found the farms burdened. It is, however, unnecessary for me to add anything new on the subject, which has for some time been occupying the attention of Government and is still under consideration.

The district continues to enjoy comparative immunity from serious crimes. The criminal records for the past year show five convictions (the offenders in every case being Batlapin) for stock-theft, two (Colonial Kafirs) for supplying liquor to natives, and between fifty and sixty for minor offences such as contraventions of the pass-laws, petty theft, assaults and the like.

The establishment of a pound at Dry Hartz appears to have done much towards checking the wholesale impounding of natives' cattle by farmers living in the Vryburg district on the northern border of the reserve. There is, however, no doubt that the erection of a wire fence along the north Western boundary of the Taungs Native Reserves and along such portions of the Reserve as abut on the South Africa Republic (both of which projects are I believe now under the consideration of the Government) would be productive of beneficial results.

The out-buildings occupied by the late Major Lowe, which have for some time been practically unfit for use, collapsed during the recent rain and are now little better than a heap of unsightly ruins which should be pulled down entirely and removed as soon as possible.

The exceptionally heavy rains of February last, which resulted in the interruption for some days of all but telegraphic communication between Taungs and the outer world, did much damage to property in this district. The wall round the Gaol and the inner walls of the Gaol Surgery and hospital fell in. Some slight damage was done to the court buildings (which were protected by a verandah on three sides), and many private dwellings in Taungs Village and the district were either completely or partially washed away. A number of native huts collapsed, but the crops do not appear to have suffered to any appreciable extent.

The Commissioner for the South Western Border and the Police of the South African Republic continue to co-operate as far as possible with the officials of this district in the maintenance of law and order along the border, but operations on both sides are impeded by the absence of provision for the extradition of

criminal offenders, and for the compulsory attendance of witnesses.

I have, &c.

J. A. ASHBURNHAM,
Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate.

The Colonial Secretary,
Vryburg.

REPORT of the CIVIL COMMISSIONER AND RESIDENT MAGISTRATE for the DISTRICT of KURUMAN for 1893–4.

I think the general cry throughout Bechuanaland has been, too much rain. This district fared, with a good many others, badly on account of the late heavy rains, farmers have lost hundreds of pounds, and the natives also, through having their mealie lands washed away, and consequently the farmer's cry is, how shall we pay our quit-rent? It was at first supposed that mealies and Kafir corn would be very cheap this year, but I do not think so now.

I regret to say very little progress has been made in this district, a few farms on the Border have changed hands, and a great many more would have done so, but I am told on all sides when farmers who come here to buy hear the quit-rent they cry off at once, so that dues for transfer duty have not increased.

A sale of erven took place in the Township; out of about 200 only ten were sold.

The offices and Gaol are just now in fair order.

No European school has as yet been established in this district, consequently European children are left to run wild.

Horse sickness, I am glad to say, has been very mild this season, and it is to be hoped in time this scourge will disappear entirely: from all accounts, although it has been an exceedingly wet season, the mortality amongst horses has never been so slight.

The natives are, I am glad to say, everywhere quiet and contented.

Hardly any crimes are committed by the Bechuanas; thefts are mostly committed by the Cape Colonial Kafirs who come squatting on European farms, and sometimes get quietly on to locations when one only hears of them being there after some crime has been committed.

The roads, on account of the heavy rains, from Kuruman to Vryburg are in a shocking state and it is to be hoped when the wheel-tax comes into force that money enough will be found to repair the principal drifts, which on the direct road are simply impossible to cross at present.

Four lepers have been removed from this district this year; they were all willing to have proper medical attendance.

BRITISH BECHUANA LAND. 1893–4.

There have been 1384 passes issued during 1893–94.

There have been 16 criminal cases adjudicated upon and 95 civil cases.

C. B. SCHOLTZ,
Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate.

REPORT of the CIVIL COMMISSIONER AND RESIDENT MAGISTRATE of the GORDONIA DISTRICT for 1893–4.

Although the losses occasioned by the ravages of the locusts combined with the long drought were very severe, I am glad to report that the quit-rent due on farms and erven was duly paid, with the exception of a very small amount.

At a sale of erven in the township of Upington last January, about 30 erven were disposed of.

The drought was broken up by copious showers of rain in January last; but unfortunately, swarm upon swarm of locusts appearing, the green veld was quickly reduced to almost the same state as before the rain.

Crime cannot be said to be increasing. A greater number of stock-thefts than usual were brought to my notice; but I believe that this may be ascribed to the severe drought, the natives stealing to satisfy their hunger.

I hope that the gaol buildings begun during the last year will be completed at an early date.

The wheat harvest was above the average; but the flooded Orange River destroyed nearly the whole of the mealie and late crops, besides occasioning great damage to the lands.

The necessity of a good school for European children is beginning to be keenly felt and I hope that an energetic move will soon be made to establish one at Upington. Several white children attend the mission schools, of which there are three in the district, two enjoying a Government grant; but the great majority of European children have little or no education.

Our Borders are quiet and the disturbance in Damaraland does not affect us in any way except by deterring traders from carrying their merchandize northwards as often as otherwise they would do.

C. BAM,
Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate.
April 27, 1894. Gordonia.

MEDICAL REPORT on the VRYBURG DISTRICT for 1893–4.

SIR, Vryburg, April 1, 1894.

I HAVE the honour to report that during the past twelve months the health of the district of Vryburg has been generally good. The sanitary condition of the township of Vryburg is also good, and the water supply of good quality.

No deaths have occurred at the central gaol during the past year. The health of the prisoners has been very good, no disease occurring among them, save of a trivial nature, the constant supply of fresh vegetables contributing largely to this result.

Seven cases of insanity have been treated, and at present there are four lunatics, one European and three natives, awaiting removal to an asylum.

Several cases of leprosy have been attended to in the gaol lazaretto; two lepers made their escape owing to the unsuitability of the lazaretto as a place of detention. Six cases of leprosy (including two alleged cases from other districts) were sent to Cape Town, and one is now at the gaol awaiting removal.

Two cases of lupus are also under treatment at the gaol, and are likely to remain there for a considerable time.

I have, &c.

W. M. NUGENT,
District Surgeon.

His Honour the Administrator.

REPORT on VRYBURG HOSPITAL for 1893–4.

During the year beginning April 1st 1893 and ending March 31st 1894, there has been a slight increase of work done, as compared with the previous year.

Patients admitted were, 55; accidents admitted, 6; discharged cured, 34; discharged relieved, 14; deaths, 7; operations, 4. Patients paying to the hospital ranging from 10*s.* to 1*s.* per day, 41; paupers admitted, 14; medical fees were charged to all by the medical men sending them in, pauper patients only being attended free by the district surgeon.

The patients belonged to the following denominations:—

Roman Catholic, 3; English Church, 21; Dutch Reformed, 7; Presbyterian, 6; Wesleyan, 8. Being the first annual report, I feel bound to add that the equipment of the Hospital throughout is as perfect as possible, and will bear favourable comparison with the best Hospitals in South Africa.

M. VEALE,
Matron.

MEDICAL REPORT on the MAFEKING DISTRICT for 1893–4.

Mafeking, Bechuanaland,
June 18, 1894.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report that, during the period 1st April 1893 to 31st March 1894, the health of the inhabitants of the district of Mafeking has been satisfactory. Amongst the white population, two deaths only have been recorded. The cause of death in one case was facial erysipelas and in the other cerebral embolism. Zymotic disease was represented by a few cases of Russian influenza during January and March, chicken-pox in July, August, and September, roseola and small-pox in March. One-fourth of the cases of malarial fever and three of the dysentery patients were imported from the interior. The continued presence of contagious ophthalmia is, no doubt, due to the carelessness of the natives in neglecting the disease and allowing the germs of the disease to be always present. The complete absence of enteric fever and the almost complete absence of acute rheumatism and of lobar pneumonia are facts worthy of note. Gastro-intestinal catarrh was present, as usual, during the spring and autumn months. The increased proportion of diarrhœa cases is explained by the presence of unacclimatized troops passing through the district en route to Matabeleland. The British Bechuanaland Police hospital has been a great boon to the men of the force, but skilled female nursing is much required. The natives have been free from epidemic disease, but cases of constitutional syphilis are of frequent occurrence. As it is quite impossible under present arrangements to estimate any change in the native death-rate, I beg to suggest that registration of births and deaths amongst the natives be enforced. The Gaol has been kept in a good sanitary condition, and the health of the prisoners is excellent. No deaths have occurred.

I have, &c.
A. PIERCE GREEN,
District Surgeon.

The Secretary, Vryburg.

MEDICAL REPORT on the GORDONIA DISTRICT for 1893–4.

(Extract.)

Upington, May 1, 1894.

IN reply to your favour of the 8th of April, 1894, I have the honour to inform you that the sanitary state during the last year from the 31st of March 1893, till the 31st of March 1894 has been a good one as well in Upington itself as in the other parts of the district of Gordonia. There were no epidemics. I have to report (as far as I know) a few cases of pneumonia, pleuritis, bronchitis, trachitis, rheumatism, heart affections, &c.

Well worth mentioning yet is the fact that gonorrhœa and syphilis are very frequent, more frequent than ever before, and, the people being left to themselves, no limits against the further spreading of this evil can be drawn.

I have, &c.
D. M. G. MARQUARDT,
District Surgeon, Gordonia,
British Bechuanaland.

The Colonial Secretary,
Vryburg, British Bechuanaland.

MEDICAL REPORT on the TAUNGS DISTRICT for 1893–4.

Taungs, British Bechuanaland,
August 15, 1894.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward you a more detailed report concerning the sanitary condition of Taungs and District.

In the Taungs gaol 23 cases of disease have been reported to me:

1 Incipient delirium tremens.
3 Syphilis (two cases were isolated in a hut adjoining the gaol, being of a virulent nature).
3 Abdominal colic.
5 Rheumatism.
2 Traumatism.
2 Insanity.
1 Syncope.
2 Bronchial catarrh.
3 Gastric catarrh.
1 Tonsilitis.

The sanitary condition of the gaol has been as good as could be expected, considering the way the structure suffered during the late floods. It would be advisable to supply water from a well, as the refuse from the native village is washed into the river.

There has been no zymotic disease in the district to my knowledge

I have treated about one hundred (100) cases of syphilis, one peritonitis; the remainder have been of a trivial nature.

It is extremely advisable that the natives and white people should be vaccinated.

I have, &c.
T. A. MAST,
District Surgeon.

Colonial Secretary,
Vryburg.

British Bechuana-land. 1893–4.

Medical Report on the Kuruman District for 1893–4.

Dear Sir, Kuruman, August 15, 1894.

I herewith beg to submit the Annual Medical Report of the Kuruman District for the year ending March 31, 1894.

I am pleased to be able to state that we have not been visited with any epidemic during the past year; although small-pox was raging around, we were not visited with it. I received instructions to vaccinate, but after vaccinating some 700 or 800 I received further instructions to stop, so that this district is very imperfectly vaccinated, so that, should small-pox break out amongst us, we are not protected.

Syphilis still abounds all over the district. Complaints come in from all round us as to the state the natives are in; the children suffer terribly from syphilitic sores and ulcers—I may say the whole district is completely saturated with it: nothing but very stringent measures will have the slightest effect upon it. Isolation, and a long-continued course of medical treatment, are absolutely necessary for its extermination, and it is doubtful even then.

Four cases of leprosy arrived at Robben Island on the 31st December 1893, from this district; there is one case still at large—that of a patient who would not go at the last moment. The natives keep these cases very quiet, as they seem afraid of being sent away, and it is with great difficulty cases of leprosy are found out.

I cannot speak too strongly about the filthiness and immorality that exists among the natives; there is no doubt that all their diseases originate from these sources, the overcrowding and filth in the huts is disgraceful.

I have, &c.

F. J. Newton, Esq., Colonial Secretary.

James Hartley, District Surgeon.

Report of the Assistant Commissioner for the Southern part of the Bechuanaland Protectorate for 1893-4.

1. With reference to section 3 of my last annual report, beacons have, under the instructions of Government, been placed by a surveyor along the boundary between the chiefs Montsioa and Bathoen at the expense of these chiefs.

2. Relative to section 7 of the same report, an inquiry was held into the dispute between Mosinye's sons, and an award was given by the Government to the effect that all the cattle taken by the one from the other were to be returned. At first, the Chief Sebele failed to comply fully with the terms of the award by delivering to me only portion of the cattle he had seized. He was therefore informed that within a fixed date he must deliver to me the balance of the cattle, or steps would be taken to compel him to do so. Preparations were accordingly made, but there was fortunately

no necessity for using force against him, as within a few days of the expiration of the fixed time he delivered the required number of cattle to me, and they were handed to those from whom they had been taken.

3. In September last, a dispute arose between the chiefs Khama and Sebele as to the ownership of a place called Tsitle, near Lopepe. Each claimed a well of water there, and ordered the people of the other to leave. Khama marched with about two thousand armed men to Lopepe for the purpose of reinstating his people at Tsitle, and with the intention of fighting against Sebele if necessary. I was instructed to accompany Khama, and, taking with me three of Sebele's councillors, I met the former at Lopepe and after talking the matter over with him I persuaded him to return to Palapye with the force he had brought pending further inquiry into his and Sebele's claims to Tsitle. I, however, consented to his people being in the meantime reinstated there.

4. In the following month, a dispute also occurred between Khama and Sebele's people about certain water pits at Menohe near Palla camp, and a fight took place in which one native was killed and the hands of another were seriously injured by gun-shot wounds. The matter was inquired into, and the guilty parties punished. Both Tsitle and Menohe are on the border of Khama and Sebele's territories between which there is no defined boundary. It is desirable that one should be made.

5. The Commission appointed by His Excellency the Governor and High Commissioner to inquire into and report upon alleged land grants and mineral and other concessions claimed by Europeans in the Bechuanaland Protectorate held sittings at Gaberones, Mafeking, and Kuruman, and after collecting all procurable evidence respecting the alleged grants and concessions, forwarded it, together with their report, to His Excellency.

6. The natives in the Southern Protectorate remained quiet during the recent hostilities in Matabeleland.

7. The Protectorate was admitted into the Customs Union from 1st July last, and the Collector of Customs at Mafeking has been appointed, with surbordinate officers stationed in the Protectorate, to see that the provisions of the regulations are carried out and to collect the dues.

8. A Proclamation has been issued with the view of protecting large game throughout the Protectorate.

9. A murder case was tried by His Honour the Resident Commissioner in which the accused was found guilty, sentenced to death, and executed.

Thirty-five criminal, and sixteen civil, cases were heard in my court during the year.

10. A house has been built here for my occupation. A court room and public offices are greatly needed.

11. Detachments of the Bechuanaland Border Police are still stationed at Gaberones, Sequani, Mochudi, Molepolole, Kanya, Ramathlabama, Sand Pits and Ramoutsa, in the Southern Protec-

torate. Horse sickness has been severe again this season, and has carried off a large proportion of the Police horses.

12. The grain crops were very poor last season, but will be abundant this year, as good rains fell throughout the year.

13. The collected Revenue under the usual heads during the year at this office amounted to seven hundred and eighty-six pounds nineteen shillings and eight pence sterling (786*l.* 19*s.* 8*d.*).

W. H. SURMON,
Assistant Commissioner.

Assistant Commissioner's Office,
Gaberones, May 1, 1894.

REPORT by Mr. J. S. MOFFAT, Assistant Commissioner, on AFFAIRS in the NORTHERN BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE for the twelve months ending March 31st 1894.

The Northern Protectorate consists mainly of the country belonging to the Bamangwato under the Chief Khama. The Batawana are an off-shoot of the Bamangwato; the division took place in the days of Khama's great grandfather. The Batawana occupy the country about Lake Ngami and, whilst virtually independent, keep up a certain amount of connexion with the elder tribe. The present Chief, Sekhome, is Khama's nephew.

The head-quarters of Khama are at Palapye, on the northern shoulder of the Chapong range. The majority of the people are congregated, according to the Sechuana custom, in the head town, but many young men are dispersed at outposts in charge of cattle up towards the Zambesi, in the direction of Pandamatenka, along the Botleti or Lake Ngami river, also in the country round Shoshong or along the Crocodile river, and also the Shashi and Macloutsi rivers.

There has been little to chronicle in the internal history of the tribe during the past twelve months. There is not much crime to speak of, and what there has been Khama has dealt with among his own people in his usual prompt fashion.

What little stock stealing has occurred has been traceable to European passers-by, who have occasionally picked up an ox or two to replenish their own teams.

The general health of the town has been better than might have been expected from the experience of the first year or two at this place. The climate is unquestionably tropical, but our elevation is above 3,600 feet and if Europeans observe hygienic laws they may live here with a fair amount of health and energy. Substantial dwellings go far, and these are becoming more general. There has been a fair amount of business, such as it is. The old and lucrative trade in ivory is virtually extinct, elephants' tusks only making their appearance at rare intervals, from the distant north-west. Ostrich feathers are now few, and

of little account. In fact, the whole of what used to be the staple trade—the produce of the chase—is now a diminishing quantity. The trade in cattle and hides, and in native corn and maize, is now pretty well all that remains. Something is done in the way of transport-riding and this may settle into an industry, so long as there is no railway to connect Matabeleland with the present termini.

There is a very large number of waggons now in the possession of the tribe and there is constant progress in this direction. The country upon the whole is dry—too dry for much in the way of lucrative agriculture. The native grains can be raised almost anywhere in the eastern half of the country, most years, when there is no drought or locusts, but native grain will not be a crop for export while there is in the Transvaal, close by, a much better watered country. As years go on, the Protectorate may come to be turned to account for cattle ranching, that is, after the expenditure of large sums in the making of dams or the sinking of wells, but at present it is native territory and the question is not a practical one.

Little can be done in the way of inducing the natives to make a beginning in development, on account of the extreme jealousy and suspicion of European encroachments due to causes which need not be dealt with here.

The principal external episode affecting the Bamangwato during the past 12 months has been the Matabele war. I need not go into this particularly, as the story has been told by others in despatches.

There are two thorny questions which have exercised the minds of the Chief and people very much, the boundary between the Bakwena and the Bamangwato on the south-west, and between Bamangwato and Matabeleland on the north-east. It is to be hoped that these matters may be successfully dealt with during the current year by commissioners appointed for the purpose. I regret to have to say that we do not seem to be gaining ground in the confidence of either Chief or people. I think that Khama is drifting away from us in feeling. The causes that lead up to this result have been dealt with elsewhere. They are connected mainly with the land question, and with the regulation of the trade in arms and ammunition. So far as the enforcement of the liquor regulations is concerned, in the Northern Protectorate a fair amount of success has been achieved. In Palapye itself the spread of drink among the Bamangwato has been kept within the narrowest limits. The store-keepers are respectable men, who have loyally co-operated with the Assistant Commissioner. One or two instances in which there has been contravention of the Chief's regulations by colonial boys or white men have been dealt with by the Chief, and have resulted in the summary expulsion of the offenders from the town. In such cases, I have stood by as there has been no real injustice, and have considered that, by giving Khama a free hand, I have acted in the spirit of the message

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND. 1893-4.

addressed to the Chief in May 1888 by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies.

The revenue has been but trifling. It was thought that the ammunition licences would bring in a good deal, but the small number applied for would seem to indicate that the people are getting the ammunition elsewhere.

There is a good Kafir corn harvest this year—the first, it may be said, since the removal from Shoshong to this place—and, with a better state of things in this respect, we may hope that there will be progress in education and civilization under the superintendence of the staff maintained here by the London Missionary Society. The Chief is, at his own expense, putting up commodious and substantial school buildings.

No serious trouble need be apprehended so long as we leave the people and the Chiefs to manage their own affairs, and do not worry them upon the land question. If we are content to preserve a *status quo* as far as possible, to allow the people to live in their own way, which does us no harm, (for they are perfectly inoffensive neighbours and, though in a low and, I may say, almost squalid, grade of civilization, yet they are far from being savages), there is no reason why things should not tend to a peaceful absorption eventually into the South African Dominion of the future. At present there is a deep-seated and resentful conviction that we intend to take the ground from under their feet, and this feeling makes it difficult for us to obtain from them even reasonable concessions.

The country is so enormously wide, and so thinly populated, that any laws we impose, if not imposed with the sympathy and the good will of the Chiefs, are sure to become a dead letter. We must be content to go slowly and to take the people with us, and not to drive them. I will only add a quotation from the words of the late Sir Gerald Portal, of which I heartily endorse the truth: "It is to be greatly feared that the breach-loading and the "repeating rifles of the European officer and his half disciplined "troops are still emptied far too often in the cause of civilization, "and that the fire in which the African now finds himself is not "much more comfortable than his former passive position in the "frying pan. All the theories, rules for guidance, and plans "which have been evolved on this subject are useless if the first "principles be forgotten. The ordinary African native is a "curious compound of suspicion, superstition, childlike simplicity, "and mulish obstinacy. If he knows and trusts his leader, he "may be guided gently towards civilization, may be made a useful "member of society, and even a Christian, but he will resist with "the whole force of his nature any attempts to kick him from "behind into comfort or into Heaven."

REPORT on the BECHUANALAND BORDER POLICE for 1893–94.

The Annual Report of the Bechuanaland Border Police for 1893 to 1894, is compiled from 1st April 1893 to 31st March 1894.

Strength.

The strength of the corps on 1st April 1893 was as follows :—

Distribution.	Officers.	Non-Commissioned officer and troopers.	Total.	Troops.
Northern Protectorate -	16	183	199	E. F. and K. troops.
Southern Protectorate -	4	73	77	G. troop.
Bechuanaland - -	5	114	119	A. troop.
Total - - - -	25	370	395	

In September, the strength was increased to 27 officers, 450 non-commissioned officers and troopers.

In October, three new troops were raised, consisting of 300 officers, non-commissioned officers and troopers, including four officers and 67 non-commissioned officers and men of the Black Watch and West Riding Regiments, and one officer and 35 non-commissioned officers and troopers of the Cape Mounted Riflemen.

On the conclusion of operations in Matabeleland in January 1894, 50 non-commissioned officers and troopers were transferred to the Matabeleland Police, raised by the British South Africa Company.

The disbandment of Major Grey's column was then proceeded with, and on the 31st of March 1894 it ceased to exist.

The strength of the corps on that date was as follows :—

Distribution.	Officers.	Non-Commissioned officers and troopers.	Total.	Troops.
Matabeleland - - -	15	215	230	E. and F. troops.
Northern Protectorate -	10	69	79	K. troop.
Southern Protectorate -	4	72	76	G. troop.
Bechuanaland - - -	8	105	113	A. troop.
Total - -	37	461	498	

Desertions.

Seven men deserted during the year from Gaberones, stealing two horses, which have since been recovered.

Native Strength.

The strength of natives, 31st March 1894, was as follows:—

Matabeleland	46
Northern Protectorate	55
Southern Protectorate	9
Bechuanaland	10
Total	120

Transport.

The transport of the corps 1st April 1893 consisted of 18 waggons, 10 carts, and 12 water carts.

This was considerably increased during the Matabeleland Campaign, and the present strength is 36 ox-waggons, 11 Scotch carts, three spring-carts and 21 water-carts.

Mule Strength.

The strength of mules 31st March 1893 was 34; during the year, 51 were purchased, 38 died from horse-sickness and other natural causes, and four were killed or lost in action, leaving the present strength 43.

Ox Strength.

The strength of oxen 1st April 1893 was 319; during the year 548 have been purchased, 69 have died from natural causes, and 159 were lost, left behind, or killed in action, leaving the present strength 639.

Horse Strength.

The strength of horses 1st April 1893 was 228; during the year, 707 have been purchased and 554 have died from horse sickness and other natural causes or have been lost or killed in action, leaving the present strength 381, which are distributed as follows:—

Matabeleland	185
Northern Protectorate	35
Southern Protectorate	56
Bechuanaland	105

Armament.

The armament of the corps at the present time consists of :—

4 Seven-pounder R.M.L. guns of 200 lbs. mounted on Colonial field carriages.
2 Seven-pounder R.M.L. guns of 400 lbs.
1 Seven-pounder, Naval pattern.
4 Maxim guns.
2 Nordenfelt guns.
1 Gatling gun on loan from the Tati Gold Mining and Exploration Company.
1,317 Martini-Henry Rifles.
217 Snider Rifles.

Special Employment.

Six troopers have been employed since July 1893, in performing the duties of Customs Officers at Ramoutsa, Sequerie, Palla, Palapye, Macloutsi, and Grobler's Cross Roads.

The usual escort of a non-commissioned officer and three troopers has been provided for the Assistant Commissioner at Palapye.

The detachment at Selika has been engaged in preventing Boers from exterminating the game in Khama's country.

On 5th July, Sub-Lieutenant Drury proceeded to Rhodes Drift to inquire into a charge preferred by the Resident Magistrate, Tuli, against a petty chief, Maleme, and issued a warrant for his arrest on the charges of theft and murder.

On 8th July, 20 mounted men proceeded to Tuli, where they were joined by Sub-Lieutenant Drury, who surrounded Maleme's Kraal, but found that he had fled across the Limpopo. The party then returned to Macloutsi.

On 19th July, Sub-Lieutenant Drury and 16 mounted men left for Tuli with orders to proceed to Maleme's kraal, but, in consequence of Matabele disturbances, were detained at Tuli, by direction of his Excellency, where they were engaged in assisting the officials of the British South Africa Company in making arrangements for the defence of Tuli. This party returned to camp 15th September on being relieved by the Company's troops.

On October 11th, in consequence of the threatening attitude of the Matabele, a column consisting of 12 officers, 213 non commissioned officers and troopers, with 215 horses, two seven-pounder guns on field carriages, four Maxim guns on galloping carriages and accompanied by transport, 15 waggons, four water carts, seven Scotch carts, advanced to take up a position in the neighbourhood of Tati.

This column was joined by about 200 men of the Company's troops under Commandant Raaff, C.M.G., and by the Chief Khama and about 1,800 of his men.

The column left Tati 20th October, and marched by way of the Monarch Reef to Mangwe, engaging the enemy near Impandine

on 2nd November, and thence to Buluwayo, which was reached by the main body 14th November.

Part of the column were then sent with Major Forbes's patrol down the Shangani, and the remainder under Major Browne to patrol the Matopa Hills.

A party of one officer and 50 mounted men left Macloutsie for Buluwayo 11th November, escorting supplies.

In January 1894, the troops were moved to nyati.

The column under Major Grey left Mafeking 28th October and reached Palapye 21st November.

Thence a detachment of one officer and 44 non-commissioned officers and men was detailed to proceed to strengthen the garrison at Macloutsie. The remainder of the column arrived at Tati 30th November.

Until 31st March, the following places were occupied by this column at various times: Tati, Mangwe, Fig Tree, and Khama River.

Regimental Works.

The second barrack room at Macloutsi, which was commenced in the previous year, has been completed; a new stable has been built at the sick lines; a brick post office has been built, and improvements effected in the quarters of the nursing staff at the hospital.

In nearly all out-stations in the Protectorate and Bechuanaland, improvements have been made in the men's quarters and the stables.

The road from Macloutsi to the Shashi was completed and the road-cutting party was withdrawn in September.

The direct road from Macloutsi to Mangwe *viâ* the Shashi and Semokwe Rivers has been opened up.

Forts were completed at Fig Tree and Mangwe.

Patrols.

Constant patrols have been made throughout the area occupied by the Corps.

Stations.

The following stations have been occupied during the year:—

Matabeleland.—Inyati, Buluwayo, Fig Tree, Mangwe, Khama River, Ramakwueban, Tati and signalling stations.

Northern Protectorate.—Macloutsi, Palapye, Selika, Grobler's Cross Roads and signalling stations.

Southern Protectorate. — Gaberones, Kanya, Molepolole, Ramoutsa, Mochudi, Palla, Sequani, Sand Pits, and Pitsani Bothluga.

Bechuanaland. — Vryburg, Mafeking, Taungs, Setlagoli, Schaapfontein, Genesa, Kuruman, Langeberg, Moroquin, Tweeling's Pan, Dry Hartz, Ramatlabama, Pitsani, Maritogo, Mosita, Zwaart Kop, Gordonia, Keimoes, and Mier.

Summary.

In summing up the various headings under which the foregoing report has been compiled, it will be seen that last October the Force was largely increased both in officers, men, and horses and that for the last seven months of the year the majority of the Force was employed in the Matabele War and the final settlement of the country.

Throughout the whole of the operations, the conduct of all concerned has been all that I could wish.

In a former despatch to His Excellency the High Commissioner I mentioned the names of the following officers, besides certain non-commissioned officers, for special services:—Major Raleigh Grey, Capt. the Hon. C. J. Coventry, Capt. Walford, and Capt. Tancred.

The health of the men, considering the exposure and privations they went through, was good, and it speaks very well for the country that out of about 650 men employed not a single death took place from climatic causes during the time we occupied the country. This I attribute greatly to the care of the Medical Officers and to the men having proper nourishment when sick and convalescent.

As usual, the death-rate among horses from horse-sickness has been very heavy. Out of the 554 horses shown as died from all causes during the year, 516 have been from horse-sickness.

H. GOOLD-ADAMS, Lieut.-Colonel,
Commanding Bechuanaland Border Police.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 138.

BERMUDA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1894.

(For Report for 1893, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 105.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
24 *May* 1895.

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1895.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
106	Gambia	1893
107	Hong Kong	,,
108	St. Vincent	,,
109	Gibraltar	,,
110	Bahamas	,,
111	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
112	Leeward Islands	,,
113	Barbados	,,
114	Malta	,,
115	Zululand	,,
116	British Honduras	,,
117	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
118	Falkland Islands	,,
119	Rodrigues	,,
120	Mauritius	,,
121	Straits Settlements	,,
122	Labuan	,,
123	Basutoland	1893–94
124	St. Lucia	1893
125	St. Helena	,,
126	Ceylon	,,
127	Fiji	,,
128	Grenada	,,
129	Sierra Leone	,,
130	British Bechuanaland	1893–94
131	British New Guinea	1892–3 & 1893–94
132	Lagos	1893
133	British Guiana	1893–94
134	Jamaica	,,
135	Newfoundland	1893
136	Gold Coast	,,
137	Zululand	1894

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.

No. 138.

BERMUDA.

(For Report for 1893, *see* Colonial Report [Annual], No. 105.)

Governor LYONS to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

MY LORD MARQUESS, Bermuda, March 29, 1895.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the report on the Annual Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1894, which has been prepared by Mr. Alison, the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.

T. C. LYONS, General,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hamilton,

SIR, Bermuda, March 26, 1895.

I HAVE the honour to submit to your Excellency the following report on the Blue Book for the year 1894:—

Finance.

2. The revenue for the year amounted to 32,476*l.*, and the expenditure to 34,216*l.* Compared with 1893 the revenue shows a decrease of 2,417*l.*, and the expenditure an increase of 502*l.*

The expenditure returns in 1894 include a sum of 1,000*l* temporarily advanced by the Treasury to the Savings Bank, which amount was not refunded until after the close of the year. In 1893 a sum of 600*l.* was also advanced to the Savings Bank, but having been refunded during the year is included in both the revenue and expenditure returns. If these temporary advances are excluded from consideration, the revenue for 1894 compared with 1893 shows a decrease of 1,817*l.*, and the expenditure an increase of 102*l.*

In the revenue and expenditure returns the amounts raised by loan (30,000*l.*) and expended (9,653*l.*) during the year on the improvements of the channel leading to Hamilton Harbour are not included.

3. The following tables compare the revenue and expenditure for 1894 with that of 1893:—

Revenue.

	Customs.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£	£	£
1893 - - - -	27,821	7,072	34,893
1894 - - - -	25,444	7,032	32,476
Decrease - - -	2,377	40	2,417

Expenditure.

	Personal Emoluments.	Other charges.	Total.
	£	£	£
1893 - - - -	17,072	16,642	33,714
1894 - - - -	18,191	16,025	34,216
Increase - - -	1,119	—	502
Decrease - - -	—	617	—

Compared with the preceding year the receipts from the customs show a decrease under nearly every heading; the decrease in the 5 per cent. *ad valorem* duties amounting to 1,490*l.*, whilst the duties collected on cigars, malt-liquor, rum, and other spirits show a decrease of 114*l.*, 173*l.*, 295*l.*, and 318*l.* respectively.

The decrease in the 5 per cent. *ad valorem* duties is accounted for to some extent by the decrease in the value of breadstuffs and other provisions. The partial failure of the potato and onion crop last season caused some distress amongst the agricultural classes in the community, and this no doubt adversely affected the receipts from customs under every heading.

Compared with 1893 the following were the principal differences shown in the disbursements:—

	£
Annuities and gratuities an increase of -	475
Interest „ -	458
Judicial „ -	369
Savings Bank „ -	482
Whilst in the—	
Colonial Surveyor's Office there was a decrease of - - - -	336
Payment of Public Debt there was a decrease of - - - - -	1,000

The increase under the heading of annuities and gratuities is due to a gratuity of 500*l.* granted to Mr. Ward, late postmaster at St. George, and under the heading of interest, to the loan raised to improve the channels leading to Hamilton Harbour.

4. The Imperial expenditure returns are as follows:—

	£
Governor's Salary - - - -	2,199
Military Establishments - - -	93,888

Compared with 1893, the latter return shows an increase of 4,630*l.*

Public Debt.

5. Of the 40,000*l.* of Inscribed Stock which the Legislature authorized the Colonial Government in 1892 to issue on account of the improvement of the channels leading to Hamilton Harbour, 10,000*l.* was issued locally in 1893 and 30,000*l.* in 1894. This Stock, bearing interest at the rate of 4½ per cent., is repayable in September 1923. The average price obtained for the Stock was 102*l.* 12*s.* 10*d.* per cent.

The Public Debt at the end of 1894 amounted to 47,100*l.*, made up as follows:—

	£
Local Inscribed Stock - - - -	40,000
New Government House Debentures - -	7,100

The average rate of interest on the new Government House Loan is 4⅜ per cent.

Public Works.

6. A new gaol at Hamilton was commenced in 1891 and finished in 1894.

There are 36 cells in the new building, the dimensions of each being 8′ 6″ × 12′ × 11′ 6″, in addition to five strong-rooms and ample store accommodation. The old gaol was adapted so as to provide four cells for females, a sick ward, chapel and warder's accommodation. The cost of these works, in addition to a cottage for the gaoler, amounting to 5,700*l.*, was defrayed out of a portion of the proceeds of an investment of 6,000*l.* made in 1865 for the purpose of forming a fund to provide a gaol, and a lighthouse, which was erected in 1876 at St. David's Island.

In 1893 the Board of Public Works entered into a contract with Messrs. S. Pearson and Son, of Victoria Street, Westminster, to deepen and widen, at a cost of about 38,000*l.* the channels leading to Hamilton Harbour so as to obtain a minimum depth of 20 feet at mean low water and a minimum width of 92 feet at the bottom of the channels.

BERMUDA. 1894.

This work was commenced in July 1894 and is satisfactorily progressing.

Legislation.

7. The Legislature was in session from the 28th of May to the 26th of November, and the work of the session was to a large extent devoted to the continuing of Acts about to expire which have been on the Statute Book for years and about the necessity for which there has never been any question.

The legislation of the Colony is remarkable for the systematic limitation of laws to brief periods of duration. During the ten years 1874–93, the Attorney-General of the Colony states 249 Acts have been passed of which fewer than one-third were Acts without duration clauses. The whole number of Acts on the Statute Book, exclusive of those passed last session, was 748.

A committee of the House of Assembly is appointed every year to report what Acts are about to expire and at the beginning of last session the committee reported a list of 117; the actual number, however, was 118.

The reason which is urged for retaining this system is that it gives the House of Assembly a stronger control over the other branches of the Legislature and enables that House to force changes and amendments on them which would not be accepted if they could be rejected without imperiling the existence of the Act.

His Excellency the Governor at the beginning of last Session addressed the Assembly in the following term:

"In opening this session of the Legislature I have to call your attention to some of the most important Acts on your Statute Book. Under a system peculiar to this Colony a great number of Acts are on the eve of expiring and no doubt a considerable part of the present session will be taken up in continuing laws which are now limited to expire at the end of next year.

"Among these temporary laws is the whole body of your Post Office Acts regulating the internal and external postal relations of these islands, relations which bring Bermuda into touch with the most distant countries on the globe. Whatever reasons may be urged for giving a brief duration at first to minor Acts of a tentative or experimental nature, I cannot but think that it is not only an inconvenient but a dangerous practice for the whole of your Post Office system, involving important Imperial and commercial interests, as well as treaty obligations with foreign Governments and other colonies, to be made dependent on the political accidents which, by giving rise to a conflict of opinion between the various branches of the Legislature, may periodically bring the whole system into jeopardy."

As the Attorney-General has pointed out, the instability and precariousness of such a system of legislation are not the least objections to it, but the waste of time and money in habitually bringing so large a part of our laws under reconsideration, and the

facilities thus afforded for forcing hasty and inconsiderate amendments and changes on the Legislative Council and the Governor, are far more serious.

The most noteworthy of the legislative measures passed during the session was "The Public Health Act, 1894." By this Act the General Board of Health was reconstituted and provision made for the appointment of a Medical Officer of Health for the Colony. This measure it is hoped will conduce to the improvement of the sanitary condition of the Colony, which has become of greater importance in consequence of the increasing number of visitors to these islands from the United States and Canada during the winter months and the consequent profit resulting therefrom to our small community.

During the year, 21 Resolves were passed, appropriating 7,329*l.* for specific services not provided for by existing laws.

Councils and Assembly.

8. Mr. William Henry Gosling, the senior unofficial member of the Executive and Legislative Councils in the Colony, died in November last. His loss was much felt not only by the Colonial Government but by the community at large.

Civil Establishment.

9. Mr. Robert Ward having retired on account of ill-health from the office of Postmaster at St. George's, Mr. V. O. Brown, clerk in that office, was promoted to the vacant office.

Imports (exclusive of specie.)

10. The value of the imports, exclusive of specie, in 1894 was 283,952*l.* Compared with 1893 this shows a decrease of 37,361*l.* with 1892 of 44,991*l.*, with 1891 of 42,024*l.*, but with 1890 an increase of 11,349*l.*

The value of the imports from the United Kingdom and other countries respectively in 1893 and 1894 is shown in the following table :—

	1893.	1894.
	£	£
United Kingdom	86,601	85,903
Canada	22,734	21,162
Other British Colonies	11,716	8,895
United States of America	198,624	166,705
Other Countries	1,638	1,287
Total	321,313	283,952

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The principal imports from the United Kingdom in 1894 were clothing, valued at 3,790*l.*, materials for clothing 16,777*l.*, leather manufactures 3,113*l.*, oilmen's stores 4,807*l.*, woollen goods 9,276*l.*, and malt liquor 18,907*l.*

The principal imports from the United States of America were bran, valued at 3,607*l.*, butter 10,747*l.*, corn 3,779*l.*, flour 12,823*l.*, canned goods 5,769*l.*, groceries 7,106*l.*, lumber 4,666*l.*, oats 6,012*l.*, kerosene oil 3,403*l.*, poultry 3,531*l.*, smoked and pickled meat 12,715*l.*, sugar 3,586*l.*, oxen and cows 24,066*l.*

Exports (exclusive of specie).

11. The value of the exports, exclusive of specie, in 1894 was 94,334*l.* Compared with 1893 this shows a decrease of 28,645*l.*, with 1892 of 13,394*l.*, with 1891 of 35,469*l.*, and with 1890 of 43,192*l.*

The following table shows the value of the exports to the United Kingdom and other countries respectively in 1893 and 1894:—

	1893.	1894.
	£	£
United Kingdom	1,639	2,003
Canada	3,460	2,634
Other British Colonies	3,008	1,248
United States of America	113,131	85,163
Other countries	1,741	3,286
Total	122,979	94,334

The principal export to the United Kingdom in 1894 was arrowroot, valued at 974*l.*, and to Canada lily bulbs, valued at 1,239*l.*

The principal exports to the United States were onions valued at 45,414*l.*, a decrease compared with the preceding year of 14,456*l.*; potatoes valued at 18,717*l.*, a decrease of 7,905*l.*; and lily bulbs 17,122*l.*, a decrease of 3,928*l.*

The decrease in the value of the onions and potatoes exported during 1894 is due not to a fall in price in the New York markets but to short crops resulting from disease. In the case of the lily bulbs, however, the decrease in value is due principally to a fall in prices.

Imports and Exports of Specie.

12. The value of the specie imported in 1894, including that imported by the Imperial Treasury Chest Officer here, which is not shown in the Blue Book returns, was 26,895*l.* The value of the specie imported in 1893 was 6,267*l.*

The large importation of specie, mostly in gold, in 1894, is due to the local loan issued in 1893–1894 for channel improvements, which caused the temporary withdrawal from general circulation of about 30,000*l.*

The value of the specie exported in 1894, according to the Blue Book returns, is 2,095*l.*, compared with an export in 1893 valued at 6,090*l.*

The value of the imports and exports of specie given above does not, of course, include the amounts brought in or carried away by transient visitors on their persons, and as the floating is large compared with the resident population this has an important bearing on the matter.

With regard to the export of specie, for instance, nearly the whole amount shown in the returns under this heading in 1893 and 1894 consisted, so I am informed by the agents of the mail steamers plying between these islands and New York, of American money brought here in the pockets of American tourists and consequently not shown in the import returns, but, being exported in bulk by merchants and others in the Colony into whose hands it came, is shown in the export returns.

For this reason it is impossible to arrive at any reliable conclusion by merely deducting the value of the exports of specie, as given in the returns, from the imports.

The men of the North American and West Indian Squadron, so I am informed by the Imperial Treasury Chest Officer here, take away more money from these islands than they bring in, but no reliable estimate of the loss from this cause can be given.

Population and Public Health.

13. The Registrar-General estimated the resident civilian population of these islands at the end of 1894 at 15,643, comprising 5,990 White (2,918 males and 3,072 females), and 9,653 coloured persons (4,463 males and 5,190 females).

The birth-rate was 32·8 and the death-rate 23·2 per 1,000. Of the births 18·4 per cent. were illegitimate. The death-rate according to colour was 16·6 per 1,000 amongst the resident White and 24·8 per 1,000 amongst the coloured population.

The infantile death-rate, or proportion of deaths of infants under one year of age to registered living births, was 19·5 per cent.

BERMUDA. 1894.

The average strength of the Imperial Forces in Bermuda in 1894 was 2,810 and the deaths were 14, the rate of mortality thus being about 5 per 1,000. Of these deaths, five were due to enteric fever, one to scarlet fever, one to rheumatic fever, one to dysentery, three to diseases of the brain, one to acute yellow atrophy of liver, one to Bright's disease, and one to asphyxia (from drowning).

The Senior Medical Officer in charge of the Military Forces in the Command reports that the general health of the troops has been very good. Average strength of the garrison, 1,410; number of admissions to hospital, 678; number of deaths, 11; average number of daily sick, 35·98; average sick-time to each soldier, 9·31 days; average duration of each case of sickness, 19·37 days. Average strength of officers, 61; cases of sickness, 18; deaths, none.

The Principal Naval Medical Officer reports that the mean daily strength of the Naval Forces at Bermuda, for the year 1894, corrected for the period that each ship remained in port, was 1,400, a decrease of 200 as compared with the previous year.

The number of cases treated was 381, a diminution of 297, as compared with 1893, the reduction being chiefly observable in venereal diseases, diarrhœa, and accidents.

Three cases of enteric fever were entered. There has been no death from this disease, and those in hospital are convalescent.

Criminal Statistics.

14. The number of offences reported to the police or magistrates during the year was 453, a decrease compared with 1893 of 33, but an increase compared with 1892 of 71.

The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates was 418, of whom 261 were summarily convicted, 47 discharged for want of evidence, 89 acquitted, and 21 committed for trial in the Superior Courts.

Of the 261 persons summarily convicted, 190 were fined, 16 imprisoned in lieu of fine or surety, 49 were peremptorily imprisoned, and six bound over to keep the peace.

Twenty-five cases were tried in the Superior Courts during the year, and the convictions numbered 15. Of these, one was for concealment of birth, five for offences against the person, one for prædial larceny, two for other offences against property, and six were classified under the heading of "miscellaneous offences."

Gaols.

15. The number of persons confined in the gaols was 139 (119 males and 20 females); of these, 51 were committed for safe custody till trial or for want of security, and 88 for purposes of penal imprisonment.

Lunatic Asylum.

16. Six patients (two male and four female) were admitted into the asylum during the year, and five (two males and three females) were discharged. There were five deaths, one from kidney disease, one from hernia, one from cancer, one from diarrhœa, and one from general paralysis.

The daily average number of patients during 1894 was 37.

Education.

17. The Inspector of Schools furnishes the following returns:—23 aided primary schools; 1,259 scholars (657 boys and 602 girls); school fees, 588*l.*; Government contributions, 1,007*l.*

One aided secondary school; 44 scholars (26 boys and 18 girls); school fees 132*l.*; Government contributions 54*l.*; voluntary contributions, 40*l.*

There are about 40 primary and 3 secondary private schools in the Colony receiving no Government aid.

Meteorological Observations.

18. The returns from the Observatory at Prospect Camp, which is 151 feet above sea-level, show as follows:—

Mean atmospheric pressure for the year, 30·143 inches; mean temperature of the air, 70·1°; mean relative humidity, 83·6 per cent.; mean hourly velocity of the wind, 8·5 miles; total amount of rainfall, 59·39 inches; difference of rainfall from average of past 16 years, 6·83 inches less.

General.

19. 1894 was not a very prosperous year in Bermuda, owing to the partial failure caused by disease of the potato and onion crops.

The rebuilding of Trinity Church, the largest church in the Colony, which was destroyed by fire in 1884, was so far advanced in 1894 as to admit of the nave being opened for Divine Service before Christmas Day. There are upwards of 600 sittings in the completed portion of the building, which has cost over 20,000*l.*

Statistics.

20. The usual table prepared for the Board of Trade statistics is given below:—

Population.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
1893 - - -	7,311	8,208	15,519
1894 - - -	7,381	8,262	15,643

	1893.	1894.
	£	£
Gross amount of public revenue - - - -	34,893	32,475
Gross amount of public expenditure - -	33,713	34,216
Customs revenue - - - - - -	27,820	25,444
Public debt - - - - - -	17,600	47,100
	Tons.	Tons.
Total tonnage of vessels entered and cleared -	354,043	293,808
Tonnage of British vessels entered and cleared -	312,524	272,503
Tonnage of foreign vessels entered and cleared -	41,519	21,305
Tonnage of sailing vessels entered and cleared -	48,288	39,409
Tonnage of steam vessels entered and cleared -	305,755	254,399
	£	£
Value of total imports (including specie) -	327,580	310,847
Value of total imports of gold and silver bullion and specie (so far as can be stated) - -	6,267	26,895
Value of imports from the United Kingdom (including specie) - - - - -	86,601	90,703
Value of total exports (including specie) -	129,069	98,377
Value of total exports of gold and silver bullion and specie (so far as can be stated) - -	6,090	4,043
Value of total exports to the United Kingdom (including specie) - - - -	1,639	2,003
Amount of expenditure from loans on public works	—	9,653

I have, &c.

ARCHIBALD ALISON,
Colonial Secretary.

To His Excellency
General Thomas Casey Lyons, C.B.,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief,
Bermuda.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 126.

CEYLON.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1893.

(For Report for 1892 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 90.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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1895.

[C.—7629.-9.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
94	British Honduras	1892
95	Lagos	,,
96	Sierra Leone	,,
97	Fiji	,,
98	Rodrigues	,,
99	St. Helena	,,
100	British Bechuanaland	1892–93
101	British Guiana	,,
102	Newfoundland	1892
103	Jamaica	1892–93
104	Victoria	1892
105	Bermuda	1893
106	Gambia	,,
107	Hong Kong	,,
108	St. Vincent	,,
109	Gibraltar	,,
110	Bahamas	,,
111	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
112	Leeward Islands	,,
113	Barbados	,,
114	Malta	,,
115	Zululand	,,
116	British Honduras	,,
117	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
118	Falkland Islands	,,
119	Rodrigues	,,
120	Mauritius	,,
121	Straits Settlements	,,
122	Labuan	,,
123	Basutoland	1893–94
124	St. Lucia	1893
125	St. Helena	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 126.

CEYLON.

[For Report for 1892 *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 90.]

Sir A. E. HAVELOCK to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Queen's House, Colombo,
MY LORD MARQUESS, Ceylon, November 17, 1894.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the usual Report on the Blue Book of Ceylon for the year 1893.

2. I beg to express regret for the delay in forwarding this Report. The delay has been chiefly due to the amended statement of Assets and Liabilities not having been revised and printed till recently.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. E. HAVELOCK.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK of CEYLON for the Year 1893.

Although the year under review was not marked by any incidents of great public interest, the progress of the Colony was steady. Railway extension and public works generally were vigorously pushed forward, and a new departure was made in municipal history by the adoption in the city of Colombo of the principle of tramways. The public health was good. The Revenue would have far exceeded that of any previous year, but for the removal of the obnoxious direct tax on the food of the people known as the Paddy Tax; and, notwithstanding a liberal policy on Public Works and a falling rupee, expenditure was kept well within bounds. Opportunity was taken of the great Exhibition at Chicago to thoroughly advertise the staple product of Ceylon, "tea"; while at the same time the distinctive architecture, and art ware, of the colony, and the picturesque costumes of the native attendants in the suite of the Commissioner, had their share in compelling public curiosity.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue of the Colony during the year 1893 amounted to Rs. 18,051,950, and the expenditure to Rs. 18,276,107.

The figures for the last two years were—

——	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	Rs.	Rs
1891 - - - -	17,962,710	16,435,079
1892 - - - -	18,509,187	17,762,466

Revenue.

2. The above figures show a decrease of Rs. 457,237 as compared with the Revenue of 1892, and an increase of Rs. 89,240 over that of 1891. The fall in the Revenue of 1893 is primarily due to the abolition of the tithe levied on home-grown paddy. The lessened importation in 1893 of spirits, cordials, and kerosine oil, of which enormous stocks were imported during the latter part of the year 1892, in order to avoid the increased Customs duties which became leviable from the beginning of 1893, is the other prominent cause which has contributed to a diminished Revenue.

3. The increases and decreases in Revenue under the various sub-heads are explained in detail in the volume.

Expenditure.

4. The total increase of Expenditure as compared with 1892 was Rs. 513,641. A full explanation of the various instances of increase and decrease under the different heads of expenditure will be found in the Blue Book.

5. The increase in the expenditure is due to a considerable extension of the Railway system; larger expenditure on Public Wroks up-keep, &c.; the liberal Government contribution towards the representation of the Colony at the Chicago Exhibition, which is universally recognized as having been worthy of the Colony, and certainly attracted great attention, even in that colossal World's Fair; and very considerably to the depreciation in the value of the rupee.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

6. The following table, showing the assets and liabilities of the Government on January 1, 1894, as compared with January 1, 1893 :

Assets.				Liabilities.			
1893.		1894.		1893.		1894.	
Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
15,152,036	66*	12,051,812	38	13,932,353	48*	10,387,316	28
				1,219,683	18†	1,664,496	10†
				15,152,036	66	12,051,812	38

reveals the financial condition of the Colony as being sound as the demand for Ceylon stock also testifies.

PUBLIC DEBT.

7. The sterling debt of the Colony raised in London amounted on the 31st December 1893, to 2,585,069*l.* 19*s.* 5*d.* as against 2,603,614*l.* on the same day in the preceding year.

8. The debt of the Colony raised in silver in Colombo amounted to Rs. 2,323,371.68 as compared with Rs. 1,325,856, on the same date in 1892.

CUSTOMS AND SHIPPING.

9. The total value of the trade of the Colony for the year 1893 was Rs. 146,536,029 as against Rs. 132,959,421, in 1892, thus :—

	1892.		1893.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Imports - - - - -	70,687,496	89	72,340,662	28
Exports - - - - -	62,271,924	47	74,195,367	54‡
Total - - -	132,959,421	36	146,536,029	82

Or deducting specie :—

	1892.		1893.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Imports - - - - -	62,761,949	63	65,977,293	8
Exports - - - - -	61,095,885	47	73,260,598	1
Total - - - -	123,857,835	10	139,237,891	4

* The figures for 1893, as published in the Blue Book, were incorrect. The revised figures are here given.

† Balance of Assets over Liabilities.

‡ The value of coal (Rs.4,217,591·70) re-exported to steamers in 1893 is entered for the first time.

10. The gross Customs Revenue for 1893 was Rs. 4,498,912·10, which, compared with 1892, shows a decrease, the cause of which has been already explained.

11. The principal imports and exports compare with those of 1892 as follows:—

Imports.

		1892.	1893.
Rice - - -	bushels	7,282,411	7,447,376
Cotton goods - -	Rs.	5,473,758	4,882,910
Malt liquor, wines, &c. -	„	1,950,373	1,392,555
Metals and metalware -	„	1,997,075	1,972,629
Coal and coke - -	tons	312,757	291,901
Specie - - -	Rs.	7,925,547	6,363,369
Machinery - -	„	953,938	679,074

Exports.

		1892.	1893.
Coffee - - -	cwts.	43,338	55,423
Cinchona - -	lbs.	6,846,741	3,440,715
Tea - - -	„	72,279,985	82,269,353
Cacao - - -	cwts.	19,177	29,776
Cardamoms - -	lbs.	247,706	411,834
Cocoanut products :—			
Cocoanuts - -	No.	11,438,718 and bags 640	10,908,940
Coir stuffs - -	cwts.	159,989	159,959
Cocoanut oil - -	„	564,550	388,606
Copperah - -	„	169,073	87,220
Arrack - -	gals.	88,874	94,672
Cinnamon - -	lbs.	2,642,449	2,741,082
Citronella oil - -	ozs.	12,825,240	12,470,192
Plumbago - -	cwts.	430,667	332,169
Tobacco - -	„	50,701	39,942
Malt liquor - -	gals.	1,789	1,089

12. The decreased import of intoxicants and the increased export of coffee and tea should be satisfactory to the advocates of temperance. The decrease in the export of plumbago, due to a falling market, though unsatisfactory to the producers, is a sign of peace, the Ceylon mineral being largely used for the manufacture of crucibles for military purposes.

SHIPPING.

13. The shipping returns for the island show an increase in tonnage:—

	1892.		1893.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered - -	3,760	2,924,864	3,675	3,102,811
Cleared - -	3,734	2,865,842	3,631	3,049,582
Total -	7,494	5,790,706	7,306	6,152,393

COLOMBO HARBOUR.

14. The expenditure for the year amounted to Rs. 250,525.62, and the total expenditure from the commencement of the work to Rs. 9,758,632.87.

15. The following is the statement of the revenue and expenditure on account of the harbour for 1893 :—

EXPENDITURE.	Rs. c.	REVENUE.	Rs. c.
Interest: Public Works Loan Commissioners - - -	105,000 68	Colombo Harbour dues - -	674,226 30
Interest on debentures - -	313,114 95	Pilotage - - -	46,180
Charges incidental to management, lighting, &c., Port of Colombo -	269,322 44	Rent of reclamation ground -	13,447 41
Balance at credit - -	213,643 75	Single warehouse rent - -	156,281 36
		Rent of wharf and warehouse Company's warehouses - -	5,693 34
		Sundries - - -	2,653 37
		Rent of Syndicate Boat Company's Office - - - -	500 4
		Surplus overtime fees credited to Harbour Fund - - -	2,100 0
	901,081 82		901,081 82
To Principal paid off—	Rs. c.		
Public Works Loan Commissioners	117,230 9		
Sinking fund - - -	74,399 95		
	191,630 4		

16. The usual series of observations made over the Breakwater after the south-west monsoon showed that the condition of the work still remains eminently satisfactory. No displacement of any kind or undue settlement has to be recorded.

17. The depth of the harbour has been maintained. Soundings taken over the harbour, with a view to determine what change is taking place, show the complete absence of silting action.

PUBLIC WORKS.

18. The expenditure of the Public Works Department for 1893 amounted to Rs. 4,347,765.49, as compared with Rs. 4,028,602.67 in 1892.

19. The expenditure may be thus classified:—

	Rs.	c.
Establishment	340,778	74
Departmental and miscellaneous charges	337,490	56
Upkeep of existing roads, bridges, canals, and irrigation works	1,313,855	54
Repairs to existing buildings	249,037	96
New works and buildings	474,949	83
Alterations and additions to buildings	130,075	69
New roads and improvements of roads and canals	722,628	60
New bridges	369,358	10
New irrigation works	367,070	24
Lands acquired	42,520	23
Total	4,347,765	49

20. 3,412·24 miles of roads were maintained in 1893 in good order, and the public buildings and works of the Colony were kept in satisfactory order.

21. The Colombo foreshore reclamation has been finished as far as the Pettah, and the arrival of the Engineers and staff for the construction of the Northern Arm of the Breakwater is awaited; the large Kelani bridge has progressed, as has the General Post Office, Colombo; the new roads in the province of Uva have been considerably advanced; the Dehiwala flood-outlets and the Deduru-oya irrigation works in the North-Western Province have been pushed forward towards completion.

SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

22. The expenditure of the Department in 1893 amounted to Rs. 413,118.86, as compared with Rs. 450,937.75 in 1892.

23. The total revenue from land sales was Rs. 292,528, or a decrease of Rs. 135,119 over the revenue of 1892, owing to fewer lands being sold, chiefly owing to a wise restriction against the alienation of heavily timbered land which it is desirable to reserve in the interest of the Forest Department.

24. The area of land alienated by the Crown during 1893 was 12,158½ acres. Of these 3,005½ acres were sold to Europeans at an average rate of Rs. 28.19, a decrease of Rs. 3.71 on the 1892 rate. 9,153 acres were purchased by natives at the rate of Rs. 27.42 per acre, an increase of Rs. 4.68 per acre on the rates obtained in 1892.

The cultivation of the cocoanut palm, which was almost entirely in native hands, has been vigorously taken up by English capitalists, and will prove a valuable stand-by in case of the possible failure of tea.

25. The work of the Department was, as usual, of a very varied character. It included irrigation, forest, cadastral, village and province boundary, fuel reserve boundary, archæological, railway boundary, road and river, and miscellaneous, surveys. Officers of the department were also employed under the Chief Resident Engineer, Railway Extensions, in tracing the line of railway extension to Jaffna and Mátara.

Forest Department.

26. In settlement, extension, and improvement of forests, useful work was done during the year. Considerable areas situated in the North-Western and Sabaragamuwa Provinces were reserved.

27. The value of sales of timber and other produce during the year amounted to Rs. 361,051.

28. Of these Rs. 361,051, Rs. 171,959 were from sales to Public Departments and Rs. 189,092 from sales to private purchasers. The sales of *timber* were chiefly of timber in log and sawn for public works and private purchasers, ebony and satin for the English and China markets (ebony being largely used in China in the manufacture of "chop-sticks"), sleepers for the Railway Extension Department, &c. Free grants, chiefly for the Chicago Exhibition, amounting in value to over Rs. 15,000, were made during the year. Firewood was supplied to the Railway Department, but the sales of private firewood to the Railway were no longer made through the Department, hence the great decrease in value of firewood sold, and small amounts were sold in Jaffna, Trincomalee, Galle, &c.

29. The revenue credited in the Treasury amounted to Rs. 365,758, against an expenditure of Rs. 404,756, but the whole value of timber sold was not recovered within the year.

RAILWAYS.

30. The receipts in 1893 amounted to Rs. 4,985,848 as compared with Rs. 4,695,774 in 1892, thus showing an increase of Rs. 290,074.

The expenditure, including new works, rolling stock, and loss on exchange was Rs. 2,865,434, as compared with Rs. 2,287,275 during 1892.

The net profit was thus Rs. 2,120,414, or 4·5 per cent. on the capital cost of construction.*

31. The mileage of railway open for traffic in 1893 was 231½, or 40 miles over 1892. The average cost of construction per mile has been Rs. 201,009. The extensions towards Galle and Bandárawela and from Polgahawela to Kurunégala were proceeded with during the year.

POST OFFICE.

32. The receipts of the Post Office are calculated at Rs. 605,089; but a considerable deduction has actually to be made on account of 5-cent postage stamps used for receipts.

33. The actual expenditure on the same accounts was Rs. 650,999.85.

Credit, however, should be given to the Department for the Government letters, which are carried free, and for other expenditure on account of mail coaches, which is incurred rather in the interests of improved communication between distant stations than for the use of the Department.

34. The deposits in the Post Office Savings Bank rose from Rs. 502,476.53 at the end of 1892 to Rs. 606,417.92 at the end of 1893, an indication of general prosperity and of a growing habit of thrift among the natives. The number of Savings Bank Offices at the end of the year was 132.

35. The number of Post and Telegraph Offices open is 260.

LEGISLATION.

36. There was little legislation of interest during the year. The most important laws passed were:—

(1.) The Rabies Ordinance;
(2.) The Pawnbrokers' Ordinance;
(3.) The Butchers' Ordinance;
(4.) The Knives Ordinance, relating to the wearing and carrying of knives.

* Including amounts expended on additional accommodation and improvements to end of December, 1892; and expenditure on Galle extension, although only open to Ambalangoda; and the cost of the Haputalé extension, which was only open for 6⅕ months.

Vital Statistics.

37. The annexed table shows the proportion of births and deaths per thousand of the population for the six years 1888 to 1893 :—

	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.
Births to 1,000 persons living - -	31·8	27·7	31·9	31·8	29·8	30·8
Deaths to 1,000 persons living - -	26·4	28·5	23·0	28·5	27·2	29·1

38. In 1893 the births exceeded the deaths by 5,378, as compared with an excess of 8,296, in 1892.

Indian Immigrants.

39. The arrivals of immigrant coolies amounted to 91,676, and the departures to 73,181, being an excess of arrivals of 18,495, as against an excess in 1892 of 48,856, which was the greatest increase since the Indian famine years 1876–77.

Public Health.

40. The general health of the people has been more satisfactory than during the past five years as regards infectious diseases.

41. There were 11 cases of cholera reported during 1893, of which 9 proved fatal, as against 1,712 cases, with 1,100 deaths in 1892.

42. There was a considerable decrease in mortality from small-pox; 140 cases with 26 deaths, as against 355 cases and 56 deaths in the previous year.

43. The following table shows the total number of persons vaccinated in 1892 and 1893 :—

1892 - - - - -	139,179
1893 - - - - -	131,486

44. The subjoined table gives the comparative number of hospitals and dispensaries open in 1892 and 1893 :—

	1892.	1893.
Civil Hospitals, including Field or Parangi Hospitals.	35	37
Medical Aid Hospitals - - -	11	13
Immigrant Hospitals - - - -	7	7
Dispensaries (Civil and District) - -	190	200
Lying-in Hospital - - - -	1	1
Asylums - - - - -	2	2

The death-rate of the total sick population in all the hospitals and asylums in 1893 was ·50 per cent. higher than in 1892.

45. The expenditure of the Medical Department amounted to Rs. 980,440.52, as against Rs. 857,714.99 in 1892. Deducting the receipts from paying patients, collections at outdoor dispensaries, and sale of medicines, the net expenditure was Rs. 884,042.11, as against Rs. 779,068.38 in 1892.

46. The cost of working the Medical Aid Ordinance appears as under :—

	Rs.	c.
Total cost in 1893 - - -	307,575	92
Receipts from estates - -	104,243	3
Export duty - - -	83,576	55
Deficit - - -	119,756	34
Total -	307,575	92

The deficit in 1892 was Rs. 89,642.64.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

47. The following table shows the number of cases instituted and of persons charged and persons convicted before Police Magistrates during 1892 and 1893 :—

	Cases instituted.	Persons charged.	Persons convicted.
1892 - - - - -	51,655	95,452	19,705
1893 - - - - -	51,773	94,550	20,442

48. The following table shows the number of persons convicted and acquitted in the Supreme and District Courts for the same period :—

	District Courts.		Supreme Court.	
	Convictions.	Acquittals.	Convictions.	Acquittals.
1892 -	462	391	395	258
1893 -	470	381	318	216

49. The results of the trials for murder and culpable homicide not amounting to murder were as follows :—

—	Number of Persons tried.	Number of Persons convicted of Murder.	Number of Persons convicted of culpable Homicide.	Number of Persons acquitted.	Number of Persons executed.
1892 -	120	61	7	52	16
1893 -	97	24	38	35	11

50. The convictions in the Supreme Court are slightly above, those in the District Court considerably below, and those in the Police Courts very greatly below, the average of the six years.

51. The convictions under the heads murder and culpable homicide are still regrettably high.

PRISONS.

52. The transfer system has been extended and improved, and is now worked with ease and regularity. The following are the only jails where local convictions sentenced to over a month are kept:—The Convict establishment, Kandy, Ratnapura, Kurunégala, and Anurádhapura.

Prisoners sentenced to three months and under are retained at Ratnapura on account of the difficulty of transfer. At Kurunégala the prisoners are retained entirely on the ground of health, the Medical Officers being of opinion that Kurunegala men cannot be kept in health in Colombo. At Anurádhapura, the local convictions being extremely small, it is not worth while to transfer men sentenced to under six months. Jaffna transfers local convictions to Colombo, but receives from Colombo habitual thieves in their penal stage.

53. The total number of admissions for 1893 shows a diminution of 901 when compared with those for 1892. This, however, is entirely due to the decrease in road defaulters. Excluding road defaulters there is a slight increase of 157 in admissions. From this it may be gathered that though the progress made in 1891 and 1892 has been maintained, there has been no further advantage.

The daily average shows a diminution of 118, which, though not so large as in previous years, is on the whole satisfactory. We must go back to 1884 to find a lower number of admissions, and to 1881 to find a lower daily average. It is also gratifying to note that the number of men hanged continues to decrease; the figures for 1893 are the lowest since 1885.

54. The expenditure for the years 1892 and 1893 was as under:—

	Rs.
1892	482,585
1893	464,653

55. The health of the prisoners in the island was on the whole satisfactory, with the single but important exception of Welikada. The health of the prisoners in Welikada during 1893 was unquestionably bad. The cause of this has not yet been discovered. During 1893 an addition was made to the diets of the penal stage prisoners in Welikada, and days spent on light labour were counted as half-days spent in penal stage for class. In the Convict establishment the sick-rate of 1893 was equal to a daily average of 116 sick out of every thousand of the total daily average, while that of 1892 was only 62. The death-rate of 1893 was equal to 63 per thousand of the daily average, while that of 1892 was only 46.

In Kandy, where the treatment resembled that in Colombo in every respect, except that no extras were given, the sick-rate in 1893 amounted to a daily average of 59 per thousand of the total daily average, while the death-rate amounted to 59 per thousand. In 1892 the death-rate in Kandy amounted to 101 per thousand.

The daily sick per thousand of the total daily average strength in the Island was 59·81 in 1892 and 92.29 in 1893. The death-rate per thousand for the Island was 54 in 1892 and 56 in 1893.

56. There can be no doubt that the standard of discipline has been very much raised within the last two years, while the position of the guards has at the same time been materially improved.

EDUCATION.

57. During the year under review there was a decrease of 1,211 scholars in schools reporting to the Instruction Department, the total number in 1893 being 157,247, as against 158,458 in 1892.

58. The proportion which the number of children attending school bears to the population of the several provinces for 1892 and 1893 is shown in the following table:—

Province.	1892.	1893.
Western	1 in 11	1 in 12
Central	1 in 29	1 in 30
Northern	1 in 12	1 in 12
Southern	1 in 22	1 in 21
Eastern	1 in 19	1 in 18
North-Western	1 in 33	1 in 34
North Central	1 in 48	1 in 47
Uva	1 in 56	1 in 54
Sabaragamuwa	1 in 41	1 in 41

59. The annexed tables give the comparative returns of attendance in Government, grant-in-aid, unaided, and Pansala schools for 1892 and 1893, together with the average attendance and average cost to Government of the scholars in Government and aided schools :—

	No. of Schools in		Attended by					
	1892.	1893.	Boys in 1892.	Boys in 1893.	Girls in 1892.	Girls in 1893.	Total in 1892.	Total in 1893.
Government schools -	453	456	36,080	35,443	6,110	6,237	42,190	41,680
Grant-in-aid schools -	1,024	1,005	57,133	55,804	25,504	25,794	82,637	81,598
Unaided private schools -	692	687	21,154	20,785	5,599	6,535	26,753	27,320
Pansala schools - -	1,703	1,728	6,878	6,649	—	—	6,878	6,649
Total - - -	3,872	3,876	121,245	118,681	37,213	38,566	158,458	157,247

	Average Number of Scholars per School		Average Cost to Government per Boy		Average Cost to Government per Girl	
	In 1892.	In 1893.	In 1892.	In 1893.	In 1892.	In 1893.
Government schools.	93	91	Rs. c. 4 47	Rs. c. 4 90	Rs. c. 3 45	Rs. c. 3 62
Grant-in-aid schools.	80	81	2 68 per scholar	2 85 per scholar	Not distinguished	Boys and girls
Unaided private schls.	38	40	—	—	—	—
Pansala schools.	4	4	—	—	—	—

60. The technical school, which was established towards the middle of the year, bids fair to become a prosperous institution, and will, it is hoped, afford to natives and Eurasians a practical knowledge of handicrafts and foster a growing tendency on their part to forsake the beaten paths which lead to the overstocked professions of law and medicine and the congested clerical service. The school roll consists of 67 names, and the students attend with praiseworthy regularity.

61. The expenditure on education during 1893 was Rs. 582,461.27, as compared with Rs. 525,839.19, in 1892.

(Signed) E. NOEL WALKER,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, November 16, 1894.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 118.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1893.

(For Report for 1892, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No 87.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty

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1895.

[C.—7629.-1.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
86	St. Lucia	1892
87	Falkland Islands	,,
88	Gold Coast	,,
89	Basutoland	1892–93
90	Ceylon	1892
91	Zululand	,,
92	Mauritius	,,
93	Labuan	,,
94	British Honduras	,,
95	Lagos	,,
96	Sierra Leone	,,
97	Fiji	,,
98	Rodrigues	,,
99	St. Helena	,,
100	British Bechuanaland	1892–93
101	British Guiana	,,
102	Newfoundland	1892
103	Jamaica	1892–93
104	Victoria	1892
105	Bermuda	1893
106	Gambia	,,
107	Hong Kong	,,
108	St. Vincent	,,
109	Gibraltar	,,
110	Bahamas	,,
111	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
112	Leeward Islands	,,
113	Barbados	,,
114	Malta	,,
115	Zululand	,,
116	British Honduras	,,
117	Trinidad and Tobago	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 118.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

(For Report for 1892, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 87.)

Acting Governor THOMPSON to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House, Stanley,
MY LORD MARQUESS, August 9, 1894.

I HAVE the honour to forward two copies of the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1893, together with a report by the Acting Colonial Secretary thereon.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. A. THOMPSON,
Administrator.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK, 1893.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The Revenue of the year (exclusive of Land Sales) amounted to 11,450*l.*, the Expenditure to 11,388*l.*

Compared with the previous year, 1892, the Revenue showed a decrease of 35*l.*, and the Expenditure an increase of 441*l.*

The "Land Sales Account" on the 31st December 1893 showed that 11,929*l.* were invested, while the "Surplus Fund Account" on the same date amounted to 1,982*l.*

Neither of these funds is included in the above-mentioned amount returned as Revenue. Towards the total Revenue received, the following figures show the contributions from the various sources:—

	£
From Customs, Port, Harbour and Tonnage Dues	3,825
From Licences, and Internal Revenue	427
From Fees of Court and offices	546
From Post Office	605
From Rents of Crown Lands	4,008
From Interest on Investments	1,365
From Miscellaneous	678

FALKLAND ISLANDS. 1893.

Out of a total expenditure of 11,388*l.*, the following figures represent the approximate expenditure on the several principal services:—

	£
On Pensions	356
On Police	629
On Prisons	88
On Education	427
On Ecclesiastical	467
On Post Office	2,278
On Public Works	2,075
On Interest on deposits in Savings Bank	635
Civil Establishment and other miscellaneous expenditure exclusive of the above	4,440

The Return (Appendix A.) gives a statement of the comparative Revenue and Expenditure, and other information for the past ten years.

Customs, Trade, and Shipping.

The Revenue of the Customs Department for the twelve months ended 31st December 1893 amounted to 3,649*l.*, as compared with 2,945*l.*, the receipts of the preceding twelve months, or an increase of 19·5 per cent. This Revenue is almost wholly derived from duties on spirits, malt liquor, wines and tobacco.

Imports and Exports.

The total values of Imports and Exports (exclusive of specie) for the twelve months were as follows:—

	£
Imports	71,126
Exports	134,872
Total	£205,998

The recorded Imports and Exports of specie for the same period were:—

Imports 1,425*l.*, Exports 30*l.* There is every reason, however, to believe that the Exports were very much larger.

The following statement will show the direction of the Import and Export Trade (exclusive of specie) of these Islands in 1893:—

Countries.	Imports.		Exports.	
	Value in Sterling.	Percentage of total Import.	Value in Sterling.	Percentage of total Export.
	£		£	
United Kingdom -	64,571	90·78	130,319	96·62
Germany - -	700	·98	—	—
Chili - - -	3,748	5·27	3,103	2·30
Uruguay - -	1,939	2·73	—	—
Argentina (Patagonia) -	168	·24	1,450	1·08
Total -	71,126	100	134,872	100

The return of exports is the most favourable on record. The total value (exclusive of specie) shows an increase as compared with 1892 of 6·35 per cent.

This increase is a strong testimony to the favourable character of the past year, the wool clip, the principal export, yielding 3,885,194 lbs. as against 3,065,761 lbs. in 1892. The whole of the above amount was exported to Great Britain.

The exports of the secondary products of the farms, such as tallow, sheep skins, hides, and frozen mutton, show, however, a slight decline.

The total value of goods imported shows an increase of 988*l.* over that of 1892. A marked feature in the import trade has been the increase by 704*l.* in the value of dutiable goods over that imported during the preceding twelve months.

Shipping.

Compared with 1892, the number of vessels engaged in the trade of these islands show a decrease of 18 vessels and 29,574 tons.

The following return shows the number of steam and sailing vessels entered and cleared during the year:—

	Steam.		Sailing.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered - -	18	21,065	24	10,398	42	31,463
Cleared -	18	21,065	19	7,226	37	28,291

Public Works.

The roads and drains have been kept in order. Works of utility are, however, necessarily limited, in the absence of any municipal rate, whatever little is done being met from the one item on the estimates for works and buildings. Yet, whenever labour was at command, opportunities have not been lost during the year to make improvements unattended with expense.

Legislation.

Of the ten Laws passed, the following may be noticed:—

"An Ordinance for the establishment of a volunteer force;" and,

"An Ordinance to provide for the better protection of property in Stanley against injury from the trespassing of animals within the town."

The title of the first above-mentioned law sufficiently indicates the intention of the Law. The organisation of the Corps has been accomplished. Its general condition will be referred to later on in this Report.

The object of the second law is to prevent the straying of animals in the town of Stanley. It provides for the impounding of any animals so wandering and sets apart a place where all persons so desiring may, by obtaining a licence at a nominal sum, depasture their horses, &c.

Education.

On the 31st December, 1893, there were five schools in operation in Stanley. The schools were fairly well attended and the instruction good.

Two of the above schools, the Reverend E. C. Murphy's Baptist school and Miss Prior's school, were conducted without Government aid.

The number of children enrolled at the end of the year at the Government schools was 117.

The opening of the private schools is doubtless mostly the cause of the falling off in the attendance at the Government schools. Besides this, very young lads can readily find other work in Stanley as outdoor labourers at the current rates of wages. Immediately the compulsory system admits, they leave school with a knowledge of nothing more than the rudiments of education. Unfortunately, the class of employments in the Colony for which educational attainments are required is extremely limited. It is, therefore, unlikely that the standard of education will be much raised until some change takes place in the circumstances of the Colony. It is gratifying to learn that some provision, by means of "travelling schoolmasters," is being made by the Falkland Islands Company for the education of the children of the settlers and shepherds in their "Camp." It has

always been difficult to meet this scholastic want, owing to the settlements being so scattered, many miles apart.

Ecclesiastical.

The clergy of the several denominations regularly visited the "Camp" and outlying islands throughout the year.

Medical.

The public health during the year has been remarkable for the entire absence of any disease, and the inhabitants of the Colony generally have been free from even the commonest ailments.

There were only 18 deaths within the year from natural causes in a population amounting approximately to 1,800.

Post Office.

The greater part of the Revenue (605*l.*) under this head was collected from stamps, &c. sold (502*l.*) to collectors and others.

The estimated amount of correspondence passing through the one Post Office during the year was 230,000. During the year, the total number of parcels dealt with was 814.

The practice of registration continues extensively, the number of registered letters, &c., received and despatched, being 1,403.

Money Orders to the value of 5,317*l.* were issued. The value of orders paid amounted to 347*l.*

The local mails continue to be conveyed to, and brought from, the West Falklands and the North of the East Falklands once a month by one of the local trading schooners, and the steam communication with the world was carried on regularly every month by the "Kosmos" line of steamers.

Savings Bank.

The following is a statement of the transactions of the Bank since its establishment on 1st April 1888 to 30th September 1893, the end of the Savings Bank year :—

Year.	Accounts opened.	Accounts closed.	Number of deposits.	Number of withdrawals.	Amount of deposits with accrued interest.	Amount of withdrawals.
					£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1 April 1888, to 30 Sept. 1888	32	—	60	—	4,201 1 5	—
1888-89	67	7	150	37	13,809 8 8	2,871 5 10
1889-90	56	21	188	93	8,972 7 4	6,300 19 5
1890-91	70	30	256	162	8,577 2 2	4,760 1 6
1891-92	62	37	291	103	8,668 5 9	5,355 9 2
1892-93	60	32	250	112	11,923 1 4	6,790 3 5
	347	127	1,195	527	56,151 6 8	26,077 19 4

The result of the establishment of the Bank, therefore, showed 220 depositors, with a balance of 30,073*l.*, or an average of over 136*l.* standing to the credit of each account. Computing the population of the Colony at 1,800, the average savings per head is 16*l.* 14*s.*

Volunteer Force.

This force, raised by Governor Sir R. T. Goldsworthy in 1892, was organised and established by law during the year.

The strength of the corps was 101 officers, non-commissioned officers, and men, and, with the assistance of a competent instructor it has attained a high state of efficiency.

The Imperial Government have furthered the movement by the free gift of ammunition, two nine-pounder R.M.L. guns, equipments and accoutrements.

The corps is also supported by capitation grants by this Government in respect of efficients and by voluntary contributions, and has every prospect of success.

GENERAL REMARKS.

General Condition of the Colonists.

Although some depression of trade existed in Stanley, owing to the decrease in the number of vessels calling here for repairs and the absence of Her Majesty's ships of war in the Brazils during the late revolution, the prosperity now diffused throughout the Islands continued.

Population.

There is amongst the colonists a general amenability to law and order creditable to all classes of the community. Twenty-five persons only were summarily convicted in the Police Magistrate's Court, of whom five were merchant seamen charged with refusing to work on board their vessels while in harbour.

The two cases sent to the Supreme Court were for breaches of Revenue Laws, while the other cases were principally cases of drunkenness.

The Colony as a Field for Immigrants.

The resources of the Colony do not offer a fair opening even for a limited number of labourers. Artisans, especially ship-carpenters, find varied but not continual employment. With the exception of meat (mutton 2*d.* per lb., beef 3*d.* per lb.) the expenses of the necessary articles of life may be taken as 50 per cent. higher than those obtaining in the United Kingdom. Provisions and wearing apparel being thus costly, compel the labourer to work continuously and at the same time keep him clear of idleness.

Single men do not, however, settle here. They are attracted with their few pounds of savings to Patagonia, where a shepherd's life and surroundings are more enjoyable. As in all pastoral countries, the population of these islands must necessarily be sparse until some trade is developed. Undoubtedly, the Falkland Islander earns higher wages than in most countries. He does not, however, confine himself to one branch of labour. He suits his occupation to the exigencies of the moment.

Sheep farming.

The prosperity of the islands is wholly dependent on the use of the vast tracts of pasture land for sheep. With the aid which nature affords, with no fear of drought, with no rank vegetation, but, on the contrary, succulent grasses, with an equable temperature throughout the year, these Islands have proved to be peculiarly well adapted for sheep.

The pastoral prospects continue to be of a cheering character. The increase of flocks, the introduction of late years of machinery for boiling down sheep, of machinery for shearing, the use of dip, the more careful shepherding and judicious breeding have secured a superior quality of produce and larger profits to the producer.

Sheep continue to be exported to Chili and Patagonia, for the purpose of stocking the north of the straits of Magellan, where concessions of land have been obtained from the Chilian and Argentine Governments by some of the lessees of the Crown Lands of this Colony.

The prices realized by the exports of wool have not yet been received in the Colony, but the amounts set down in the Blue Book may be regarded as a tolerably accurate estimate.

All the land is taken up.

The flocks now number over 770,000. The total acreage leased is 3,414,166 while the freeholds amount to 758,103 acres.

The twenty-one years' leases under the Ordinance of 1871 having elapsed in the majority of cases, on the representation of certain residents in the islands, who have expressed themselves desirous of obtaining land, certain blocks varying from 7,000 to 12,000 acres will shortly be in the market for sale.

INDUSTRIES.

Sealing—Penguins.

Turning from pastoral to other occupations, those worthy of notice are the sealing and penguin industries.

The sealing industry has been for years past in a languishing condition, owing to the indiscriminate slaughter of the seals, the pups being left to starve; while the trade with France in penguin oil has never returned with the peace that followed the war of 1870. It is pleasing, however, to be able to report a slight

revival of both of these industries during the past year. With such protection as the Government is able to afford to the rookeries, it is hoped that these animals, by being left unmolested will in time recuperate, though there can be but little prospect of any increase of importance taking place in these industries for some years to come.

Shipping.

The great falling off in the number of vessels which arrived here during the year may be accounted for by various reasons:—

To the depression of trade that prevailed in the United Kingdom and the consequent fewer number of ships rounding Cape Horn;

To the effect of the legislation in the United Kingdom of past years having for its object the diminution of the dangers attaching to the mercantile marine service, worn out vessels no longer attempting to round the Horn. Those vessels that made for this port for refuge were well found;

To the want of telegraphic communication with the world, throwing much responsibility upon the master before he can receive instructions from his owners and thus forcing him to beat up at all hazards to Monte Video, where he also finds a dry dock and the more necessary facilities for repairs. It is feared that there is no immediate prospect of the latter being supplied here by local enterprise; indeed, it is this want—this want of enterprise, combined with enhanced prices for any repairs executed, that perhaps to a greater extent than all the reasons above enumerated have driven ships requiring repairs to resort to other ports rather than be detained at Port Stanley.

Four British and two Norwegian steam whalers entered in ballast and cleared after filling up with sealskins and oil in the Antarctic.

(Signed) CHARLES W. HILL,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Stanley, Falkland Islands,
August 8, 1894.

APPENDIX A.

——	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.
Revenue - - -	£ 9,687	£ 10,438	£ 9,295	£ 8,963	£ 8,951	£ 8,628	£ 9,492	£ 11,551	£ 11,485	£ 11,450
Expenditure - - -	7,807	7,598	7,950	9,128	8,818	9,720	9,389	13,302	10,947	11,388
Customs Revenue - -	2,679	2,544	3,518	3,074	2,316	2,752	3,269	3,564	2,945	3,649
Total tonnage of vessels entered and cleared - - -	Tons. 64,507	Tons. 56,187	Tons. 59,762	Tons. 56,366	Tons. 54,960	Tons. 60,284	Tons. 60,358	Tons. 87,226	Tons. 89,328	Tons. 59,754
Total tonnage of vessels entered and cleared, British - -	23,077	14,137	24,162	36,322	9,802	11,888	15,185	31,741	22,810	14,718
Total tonnage of vessels entered and cleared, sailing - -	31,829	23,105	26,044	41,281	17,346	22,363	20,774	31,932	34,682	17,624
Value of imports - -	£ 67,848	£ 48,314	£ 73,602	£ 66,785	£ 54,008	£ 55,716	£ 67,182	£ 67,827	£ 70,138	£ 71,126
Value of exports - -	101,338	97,846	108,946	107,995	88,743	116,102	116,005	130,752	126,312	154,872
Value of exports to United Kingdom - - -	98,468	95,768	97,964	104,128	87,227	112,342	114,592	128,859	121,305	130,319
Imports from United Kingdom -	60,962	39,887	66,696	58,407	48,865	49,789	61,842	63,128	62,555	64,571

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 147.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1894.

(For Report for 1893, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 118.)

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1895.

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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
113	Barbados	1893
114	Malta	,,
115	Zululand	,,
116	British Honduras	,,
117	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
118	Falkland Islands	,,
119	Rodrigues	,,
120	Mauritius	,,
121	Straits Settlements	,,
122	Labuan	,,
123	Basutoland	1893–4
124	St. Lucia	1893
125	St. Helena	,,
126	Ceylon	,,
127	Fiji	,,
128	Grenada	,,
129	Sierra Leone	,,
130	British Bechuanaland	1893–4
131	British New Guinea	1892–3 & 1893–4
132	Lagos	1893
133	British Guiana	1893–4
134	Jamaica	,,
135	Newfoundland	1893
136	Gold Coast	,,
137	Zululand	1894
138	Bermuda	,,
139	Bahamas	,,
140	Barbados	,,
141	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
142	Malta	,,
143	Gambia	,,
144	Windward Islands	,,
145	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
146	Gibraltar	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.

No. 147.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

[For Report for 1893, *see* Colonial Report [Annual], No. 118.]

Sir R. T. GOLDSWORTHY to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House, Stanley,
June 21, 1895.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward, for your Lordship's information, the "Blue Book" for the year 1894, with the report of Captain Halkett, Colonial Secretary, thereon.

I have, &c.

ROGER T. GOLDSWORTHY,
Governor.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK, 1894.

Taxes, Duties, Fees, and other Sources of Revenue.

The main Revenue is derived from the following sources:—

Taxes, Customs duties, port dues, fees, licenses, and rents of Crown lands.

The principal Revenue is derived from Customs duties upon spirits and tobacco, and rents of Crown lands leased for sheep farming purposes, which amount to nearly two-thirds of the entire receipts.

A less, but still a very important, Revenue is obtained from the Post Office and from interest on capital invested, being proceeds of sale of Crown lands.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The Revenue for 1894, excluding land sales, exceeded that of the previous year by over 500*l.*, made up chiefly from increased receipts in the Post Office and of interest on capital invested on account of the land sales and Savings Bank funds.

The Revenue for 1894 was 11,958*l.*

The Revenue for 1893 was 11,450*l.*

The following items go to make up the Revenue for 1894:—

	£
Customs	3,136
Port, harbour, and tonnage dues	144
Licenses and internal revenue	408
Fees of court and officers	805
Post Office	1,205
Rents	4,229
Miscellaneous	265
Interest on investments	1,766

FALKLAND ISLANDS. 1894.

As compared with the previous year, there is an increase in the items of :—

1. Fees.—258*l.*, owing to payment of unforeseen probate ;
2. Post Office.—599*l.*, from increased sale of stamps and transit rates ;
3. Rents.—220*l.*, double rental accruing on expired leases;
4. Interest.—419*l.*, upon increased Bank deposits due to invested and increased annual instalments paid of purchase of freehold land.

On the other hand, the Revenue for 1894 shows a falling-off, compared with 1893, on the heads —

Customs.—513*l.*, representing duties on spirits and tobacco imported at the very close of 1893.

Port, Harbour, and Tonnage Dues.—32*l.*, resulting from a decrease in shipping entered for repairs.

Licenses and Internal Revenue.—19*l.*, owing to reduced licenses for sealing.

Miscellaneous.—407*l.* 5*s.* 10*d.*, representing part of a sum of over 500*l.* received in 1893 as insurance on the schooner "Hadassah."

Interest on Investments on account of Surplus.—17*l.*, caused by transfer of capital account to Savings Bank.

The general expenditure for 1894 exceeded that of 1893 by 1,007*l.*, owing to the adoption of a more effective system of public works and to a necessary survey of land.

Expenditure for 1894, 12,395*l.*

„ „ 1893, 11,388*l.*

Subjoined are the items expended :—

	£
Pensions	313
Governor	1,384
Secretariat	1,035
Customs	183
Audit	56
Port and marine	175
Legal	492
Police	493
Prisons	166
Medical	583
Education	465
Ecclesiastical	460
Transport	566
Miscellaneous	596
Post Office	2,249
Public works	2,397
Interest on Savings Bank deposits	758
Drawbacks and refunds	24

The land sales account, standing on the 31st December 1894 at 13,758*l.*, invested in Consols and inscribed securities, and the surplus fund to the amount of 1,982*l.* on the same date, are separate and apart from the foregoing account of Revenue.

Assets and Liabilities.

The statement of assets and liabilities shows the excess of assets over liabilities at 14,020*l.*

Deducting the amount of the land sales account here quoted at the actual amount expended in purchase of stock, that is, 12,979*l.*, instead of as represented by the face value of the securities held, that is, 13,758*l.*, the actual cash assets are 1,041*l.*

Were the three funds of land sales, surplus, and Savings Bank quoted as represented on their face value of stock, this balance would swell to 3,100*l.*

A large and important asset in the form of Government stores in hand, at the estimated value of 1,200*l.*, is not included in this account, which otherwise would show a credit, exclusive of land sales, of 4,300*l.*

Military Expenditure.

The only military body in the Colony is the Volunteer Rifle Corps, comprising six officers and about 100 rank and file.

The amount granted from general revenue towards the corps varies with the number of efficients in each year.

There were in 1893, 61 efficients, earning 2*l.* per head = 122*l.* In 1894, 56 efficients, earning a total of 112*l.*

Public Works.

To the expenditure involved in the making and upkeep of roads, drains, and culverts, as well as in the repair of all public buildings, there has this year been added the very necessary outlay for a surveyor and staff, amounting to some 500*l.* Owing largely to the nature of the soil and the absence of any Government representatives beyond the town of Stanley, saving only the officer discharging the duties of Assistant Colonial Surgeon and Assistant Collector at Fox Bay on West Falklands, public works are confined to Stanley, where the condition of the roads, offices, and works of public utility has immensely improved within the last few years.

The scarcity of steady labour, especially during the summer months, when most of the able-bodied population migrate to the sheep farms, the uncertain service rendered, the high wages commanded even by the most unskilled, combined with the high charge for carriage of every necessary, which has to be imported from England, renders the execution of any public works more laborious and costly than in most other Colonies, where the struggle for work is keener.

Legislation.

Few Colonies can be found where legislation and the entire machinery of the law can be restricted within as narrow, I might also add primitive, limits as in this Colony, which does not boast of a single unofficial lawyer.

During the year it was found necessary to pass nine Ordinances.

Four of these merely amended previous Ordinances. Two were the usual financial Ordinances making provision for the service of the Colony.

One of the remaining three was a consolidation, with improved provisions, of the health laws.

The other two provided for the custody and control of lunatics and for due investigation into shipping casualties by regularly constituted courts of inquiry.

Civil Establishment.

Important alterations were carried into effect during the year by the re-arrangement of certain of the principal offices.

The offices of Judge and Colonial Secretary, merged in one official as a tentative measure, were separated, and a judge appointed to perform judicial and legal duties combining the offices of Judge, Police Magistrate, and Legal Adviser.

The Treasurer was appointed to be Colonial Secretary at increased pay, but to continue to discharge the duties of Treasurer, Collector, Postmaster, Harbour-Master, Receiver of Wrecks, and Registrar of Shipping.

In view of increased work and responsibility cast upon him, the emoluments of the Government Clerk and Clerk of Councils were raised to 250*l.* per annum, he having to discharge the duties of Clerk of Councils, Shipping Master, and Paymaster of Pensioners.

Population.

The total number of the population shows but little variation from year to year.

On the 31st December 1894 it stood at a total of 1,902 souls.

The birth-rate throughout the colony was about 28 per thousand, as against 18 per thousand in 1893.

The death rate fell below six per 1,000, demonstrating the very salubrious nature of the climate in spite of its severity and the cold high winds that prevail.

Ecclesiastical.

The spiritual needs of the inhabitants were provided for by clergymen of the Church of England, Roman Catholic Church, and Baptist Mission in the town of Stanley, and beyond Stanley by periodical visits of the two clergymen of the Church of England.

No provision exists for a resident minister in the country outside of Stanley where are the only three churches in the Colony.

The Bishop of the Falkland Islands, who formerly had his head-quarters in the Colony, resides now in Buenos Ayres, but pays periodical visits to the Colony. His last was in April 1894.

Education.

As in the previous year, five schools were open to receive pupils in 1894, *i.e.*, four in Stanley, and one at Darwin.

Those in Stanley comprize:—

(1.) The Government School, with a staff paid by Government and supervised by an Inspector of Schools, having on its roll some 65 pupils, giving an average daily attendance of 44 in its senior branch, and some 86 pupils in the junior or infant department, with a daily average attendance of 34. The numbers on the roll were, in the senior school, 34 boys and 31 girls, and in the junior, 38 boys and 48 girls.

(2.) The Roman Catholic School, having a total muster on the roll of 20 boys and 12 girls, showing an attendance of 30 daily, and receiving a grant in aid from the local Government of 60*l.*

(3.) The Baptist School hitherto had not received any grant-in-aid, but towards the close of the year the Secretary of State sanctioned an annual grant on the same conditions as that allowed to the Catholic School.

The pupils number on the roll 53—30 boys and 23 girls, showing an attendance daily of some 43 in all.

(4.) A private school, conducted by Miss Prior, having some 20 boys and 15 girls on her list.

The only school outside of Stanley is at Darwin, the property of the Falkland Islands Company, who in a praiseworthy public spirit have ministered to the educational requirements of their employees by engaging and maintaining itinerant teachers whose roll of pupils amounts to 37.

Taking into account the Government Schools alone, senior and junior, upon which Government devote a yearly expenditure in salaries and upkeep of over 300*l.*, the number of pupils shows a marked increase over the previous year; 151 as against 117.

The Government Schools are strictly unsectarian and undenominational.

Further extension of the means of receiving education is soon to be effected by Government in the appointment of itinerant schoolmasters on the West Falklands, whereby the very poorest families of shepherds and labourers cannot fail to benefit.

Elementary knowledge is imparted very fully throughout; while the higher classes are instructed in such departments (in the Roman Catholic School in the Spanish language) as are best likely to serve in the future when emigrating to the Mainland of South America as many have done.

Prizes are freely given to encourage emulation and diligence and if any fault can be found on this head it is in the somewhat too general distribution, which has a tendency to detract from the distinction intended to be conferred.

FALKLAND ISLANDS. 1894.

Imports and Exports.

The values of imports and exports for the year 1894 show a small decrease as compared with the previous year:—

	1893.	1894.
	£	£
Imports - - - - -	71,126	62,270
Exports - - - - -	134,872	131,801

This decrease, which is apparent rather than real, is to be accounted for by the imperfect returns furnished at late periods by shippers, and by the late arrival and entering, in January 1895, of two regular trading vessels with full assorted cargoes.

The goods imported and exported were distributed over the following countries:—

Country.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
United Kingdom - - - -	54,500	130,071
Germany - - - - -	759	—
Uruguay - - - - -	1,712	—
Chile - - - - -	4,232	1,160
Argentine - - - - -	1,067	570
Total - - - -	62,270	131,801

The bulk of trade is with the United Kingdom, the imports comprising every variety of food articles, dry goods, hardware and oilmen's stores, the exports being wholly the produce of sheep farms and a few seal skins.

The subjoined table shows the principal specific dealings with other countries:—Germany—groceries, wine, tobacco; Uruguay—flour, fruits, and fodder; Chile—flour, timber; Argentine—live stock, building material, flour.

The staple industry, sheep farming, produced only 3,808,475 lbs. of wool, of the value of 105,042*l.* as against 3,885,194 in 1893, owing in a great measure to a larger number of sheep having been slaughtered for the frozen meat trade, and to an increased mortality in the shearing season through the use of steam clipping apparatus, which crops so closely as to endanger the life of the animal, and to throw back the growth of the wool in relation to its clip in the ensuing season.

The following are some of the minor exports for the year :—

——	Quantity.	Value.
	lbs.	£
Tallow - - - - -	179,500	1,980
Sheep skins - - - - -	82,150	16,430
Carcases - - - - -	11,681	4,672
Seal skins - - - - -	651	720

Government Savings Bank.

The Government Savings Bank was instituted and formed under Ordinance No. 1 of 1888, passed on the 20th January of that year.

The first deposit was paid in on the 1st April 1888, since which the remarkable progress of the operations of the Bank has amply justified the wisdom of its formation, as conferring a much required boon upon a thriving and naturally saving population.

The Bank returns are noteworthy in regard to the fact that they represent not the profits of the wealthy or the well-to-do, but the accumulated savings of the shepherds and labourers in the Colony.

The following is a statement of the transactions of the Bank since its establishment on 1st April 1888 to 30th September 1894 :—

Year.	Accounts opened.	Accounts closed.	Number of Deposits.	Number of Withdrawals.	Amount of Deposits with Interest accrued.	Amount of Withdrawals.
					£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1st April 1888 to 30th Sept. 1888 -	32	—	60	—	4,201 1 5	—
1888-1889 - -	67	7	150	37	13,809 8 8	2,871 5 10
1889-1890 - -	56	21	188	93	8,972 7 4	6,300 19 5
1890-1891 - -	70	30	256	182	8,577 2 2	4,760 1 6
1891-1892 - -	62	37	291	103	8,668 5 9	5,355 9 2
1892-1893 - -	60	32	250	112	11,923 1 4	6,790 3 5
1893-1894 - -	68	38	325	123	10,497 7 7	7,817 0 11
Total -	415	165	1,520	650	66,648 14 3	33,895 0 3

The result of the establishment of the Bank therefore shows that there are 250 depositors with a balance of 32,753*l.* 14*s.*, or an average of 131*l.* 0*s.* 3*d.* standing to the credit of each account.

The depositors have been credited with 757*l.* 11*s.* 1*d.* in interest during the year, being 123*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.* in excess of that credited last year, while the balance of deposits over withdrawals is 2,680*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*

FALKLAND ISLANDS. 1894.

On the 30th September 1894 the investments on account of the bank stoods thus:—

	£	s.	d.
Consols - - - -	3,199	1	3
Inscribed Stock - - -	25,707	9	0
Uninvested - - - -	3,847	3	9
Total - - -	32,753	14	0

The income earned by the Bank during the year has been 882*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*, and the expenses incurred, 761*l.* 15*s.* 1*d.*, leaving a profit of 120*l.* 12*s.* 5*d.*

No charge for management has been debited against the Bank.

Shipping.

Fewer sailing vessels were entered during the year, as against an increased number of steam vessels in the previous year.

	Steam.		Sailing.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered - - -	21	26,345	18	12,043	39	38,388
Cleared - - -	21	26,345	13	6,564	34	32,909

Two of Her Majesty's ships arrived and made a prolonged stay in the Colony during the year, but are not included in the above returns, viz.:—

H.M.S. "Racer," Commander Rolleston, R.N.

H.M.S. "Acorn," Commander Inglefield, R.N.

Agriculture.

Tillage and land cultivation is practically unknown saving only for domestic purposes.

About 100 acres may be said to be appropriated to the cultivation of kitchen gardens by separate families for home consumption only. Tubers and ground crops do well, but the normally high prevailing wind is fatal to the healthy existence of any plant or fruit rising more than two or three feet above ground. The Colony is essentially pastoral and the sole industry the raising of sheep, to which the entire acreage of 6,500 square miles or 4,166,400 acres is devoted.

Some portions of the land are, of course, useless for any purpose, being nothing but soft bog, and stone runs, where neither grass will grow nor animals can tread.

There were at the close of 1894 over three-quarters of a million sheep in the Colony, one firm alone being able to compute its flocks at a quarter of a million.

Horned cattle amounted to 8,192, and horses to 3,294.

Locomotion is performed inland entirely on horseback, every farmer keeping a sufficient number of horses for all his hands.

Wages for unskilled labour rule high, owing to the supply being less than the demand.

At the same time, to avoid misapprehension, it has to be borne in mind that employers of labour of any kind are so few in number that the demand is limited and by no means sufficient to encourage immigration to the Colony.

Under existing conditions it may be, and, as compared with populous civilized countries, undoubtedly is, the labourer's paradise; but a trifling addition to the working classes from outside would quickly set the balance the other way.

In the town of Stanley, shipwrights, joiners, carpenters, and blacksmiths command from 8*s.* to 16*s.* a day when working for vessels forced to call in for repairs, while the most ordinary labourer receives his 8*d.* per hour so long as he chooses to work.

Sailors engaged on coasting trade, which also embraces runs to the neighbouring Mainland of Patagonia, secure at least 5*l.* a month.

Domestic servants are very scarce.

Gaols and Prisoners.

Crime in its serious phases is happily almost unknown, and the office of gaoler in the only prison in the Colony, that in Stanley is so much of a continuous sinecure as to permit of that official being also entrusted with the duties of Government printer.

The prison is small, well-built, well-found and well-conducted, and is governed by the rules pertaining to prisons in England, allowing only for altered local conditions and appliances.

During the year, only 11 prisoners were received into gaol, upon conviction by the Courts, for the following offences:—

For larceny - - - - -	6
Breach of Merchant Shipping Act - - -	3
Common assaults - - - - -	2

Post Office.

The receipts under this head were 1,205*l.* for the year, or an increase over 1893 of nearly 600*l.*

Of this large sum, however, nearly 400*l.* was the triennial payment to the Colony for sea transit rates.

The remaining 200*l.* resulted from a larger demand for stamps, principally by stamp collectors. Money orders were issued upon the United Kingdom and other countries, thus :—

	£
United Kingdom - - - -	4,863
Germany - - - - -	135
America, United States - - -	33
Norway - - - - -	41
Belgium - - - - -	6
France - - - - -	3
Switzerland - - - - -	1
Holland - - - - -	2

These yielded a revenue in commissions to the Colony of 62*l.* 18*s.*

The amount of correspondence passing through Stanley Post Office, the only one in the Colony, showed a steady increase from month to month.

856 packages and parcels were dealt with, that is, 710 from the United Kingdom, 146 to the United Kingdom, giving a revenue of over 50*l.*

Of the total number, 1,761, of registered letters passing through the Post Office, 310 were received from abroad, while 1,451 were despatched from Stanley, giving a return to the Treasury of 12*l.*

The following statement shows the comparative numbers in 1893 and 1894 of parcels and registered letters.

	1893.	1894.	Increase.
Parcels - - - -	814	856	42
Registered letters - - -	1,403	1,761	358

The remote and isolated position of the Colony, and the difficulty of communicating from Stanley with other places on the East and West Falklands, renders a very large outlay necessary each year for the maintenance of anything approaching a regular Mail Service.

The following was expended in 1894 :—

	£
Mail steamship - - - -	1,800
Local schooner - - - -	360

for carriage of mails alone.

The territorial transit rates payable to the United Kingdom for mail matter beyond London were 128*l.* 15*s.*

The Post Office management being in the hands of public officers holding other wholly distinct appointments, the outlay from public funds for postal expenses in Stanley stood at the low total of 20*l.*

The three years' mail contract with the German Kosmos Line will expire in 1895, when it is hoped that more liberal terms and

an improved service may be secured which will bring the Colony into more close and frequent communication with England.

General Remarks.

The financial condition of the Colony is sound, and there is no public debt.

The port is practically free when it is considered that the only duties imposed by law are those on luxuries such as spirits and tobacco.

The main drawback experienced by Government and by resident sheep farmers is the difficulty and delay in communication.

There are no roads, nor can any be made, save at a prohibitive cost, owing to the soft boggy ground.

Communication by land has to be performed from homestead to homestead on horseback, and in winter, when the ground becomes very soft, is tedious and fatiguing—sometimes almost dangerous. Nor is travelling rendered agreeable by varying scenes of natural eauty or the possibility of sport on the way. In the main, the entire aspect is one of endless moorland, dreary in the extreme, and devoid of life save where sheep happen to graze, and unrelieved by a solitary tree.

The West Island has to be reached by water, and sailing in this latitude presents few features of attraction.

With a view to bringing the residents of West Falklands more in touch with the capital and of providing for their requirements on the spot, his Excellency the Governor appointed a commission to travel through the islands and make such recommendations as they deemed proper for bettering the position of the people. The commissioners' report is under consideration.

The Colony is in a thoroughly prosperous and satisfactory state.

Nature has fitted the country by soil and climate for pasture alone which can be profitably turned to account only for sheep and cattle.

Agriculture on a scale calculated to give any return is impossible upon such soil as prevails throughout.

Mines are as yet undiscovered, even if in this geological formation it were worth while to prospect, which is doubtful.

The sealing industry is so limited as to be not worth taking into account. If, however, the industry were properly protected, and the fisheries closed for a term of years, it might become valuable when recommenced under proper conditions and restrictions, but it will always be difficult to ensure the protection of the seals during the years when the seals are recuperating, unless a man of war is stationed to prevent foreign vessels taking the seals.

Employment can be found only for a limited number, and immigration to any extent could never be attracted, although,

FALKLAND ISLANDS. 1894.

having regard to the ruling scale of wages in force and to the extreme independence of all classes of labour, there is undoubtedly room for a few workmen skilled in all branches of trade.

Poverty in its European acceptation of the word is absolutely unknown. The poorest in the humblest walks of life need not, and as a fact never do, want for a sufficiency, while those in regular employment may be said to live in luxury compared with their English confrères.

Climatic conditions are as conducive to health and to the absence of endemic or enteric disease as can be found anywhere in the world.

The winds are high, incessant, and trying to the weakly, but are dry and healthy.

The cold is tolerably constant and severe, but the temperature is far more equable than in England, for here it practically never freezes nor, on the other hand, does the sun ever make its presence felt with undue force.

Strangely enough the industry of fishing, which in sea girt islands one would expect to find general, does not even exist. In Stanley itself no one goes beyond laying nets in the harbour. The harvest reaped from these ought to be some index of what might be obtained further afield.

In the principal streams trout are found, and it is contemplated, through the kind assistance proffered by the Marquis of Exeter, to introduce salmon ova.

From one cause and another, the Islands have fallen from their high estate as a happy hunting ground for sportsmen. The wild cattle which abounded have been entirely cleared off the face of the country to make way for sheep. Wild geese at certain seasons remain to the fore and afford plentiful sport, but teal, duck, snipe, and other game have become scarcer every year.

In concluding this report I desire to bear testimony to the willing and prompt response on the part of nearly all the residents and farmers throughout the Colony to my request for information upon which I had to rely in compiling the statistics of population, produce, stock, &c. on individual stations.

F. CRAIGIE HALKETT,
Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 127.

FIJI.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1893.

(For Report for 1892, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 97.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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1895.

~~[C.—9.-10.]~~

[C.—7629.-10.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
93	Labuan	1892
94	British Honduras	,,
95	Lagos	,,
96	Sierra Leone	,,
97	Fiji	,,
98	Rodrigues	,,
99	St. Helena	,,
100	British Bechuanaland	1892–93
101	British Guiana	,,
102	Newfoundland	1892
103	Jamaica	1892–93
104	Victoria	1892
105	Bermuda	1893
106	Gambia	,,
107	Hong Kong	,,
108	St. Vincent	,,
109	Gibraltar	,,
110	Bahamas	,,
111	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
112	Leeward Islands	,,
113	Barbados	,,
114	Malta	,,
115	Zululand	,,
116	British Honduras	,,
117	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
118	Falkland Islands	,,
119	Rodrigues	,,
120	Mauritius	,,
121	Straits Settlements	,,
122	Labuan	,,
123	Basutoland	1893–94
124	St. Lucia	1893
125	St. Helena	,,
126	Ceylon	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 127.

FIJI.

[For Report for 1892, *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 97.]

Acting Governor BERKELEY to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House,
MY LORD, October 20, 1894.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith three copies of the Blue Book of the Colony for the year 1893, together with a report thereon by the Assistant Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. S. BERKELEY,
Administrator.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1893.

1. REVENUE.

The estimated Revenue for the year was 72,406*l.* The actual receipts amounted to 76,774*l.* 2*s.* 7*d.*, being in excess of the estimate by 4,368*l.* and greater than the Revenue of the year 1892 by 5,221*l.* 7*s.* 5*d.* The principal increase accrued under the head of "Customs Dues," the receipts from which were greater by 4,213*l.* than in the previous year. This increase did not arise from any alteration of the Customs Tariff, but from an improvement in the volume of imports. The following are the amounts that have been received under each head of Revenue in the past two years:—

	1893.			1892.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
1. Customs - - - -	36,638	15	1	32,425	5	11
2. Port, Wharfage, and Lighthouse dues	4,373	11	7	3,238	18	11
3. Native Taxes - - -	17,436	11	0	18,256	4	11
4. Licenses and Internal Revenue -	7,223	2	1	6,600	16	7

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—	1893. £	s.	d.	1892. £	s.	d.
5. Fees of Court or Office, Payment for Specific Services and Reimbursements in Aid - - -	6,639	3	6	6,046	18	11
6. Post Office - - - -	1,915	3	11	1,860	11	0
7. Rent of Government Property -	710	16	4	587	15	6
8. Miscellaneous - - -	1,557	18	7	2,469	18	5
9. Land sales - - - -	279	0	6	66	5	0
	76,774	2	7	71,552	15	2

The receipts derivable from Taxation, consisting of Customs Duties, Native Taxes, License fees, and Stamp Duties, amounted to 59,294*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.* or 77·2 per cent. of the whole Revenue.

2. Expenditure.

The Estimated Expenditure was 70,447*l.* 1*s.* 3*d.* The Actual Expenditure under the ordinary heads was 74,543*l.* 17*s.* 10*d.* or 4,096*l.* 16*s.* 7*d.* greater than the Estimate, and 2,230*l.* 4*s.* 9*d.* less than the Revenue of the year.

But it was deemed desirable to bring to account a sum of 11,437*l.* 17*s.* 3*d.* which, between the years 1883 and 1886, was advanced from Public Account under the Authority of Ordinance No. XX. of 1882.

By that Ordinance it was provided that the Governor might arrange with any Banking Company for an advance of a sum not to exceed 15,000*l.* to be applied exclusively to the construction of public works at Suva. It was found more expedient, however, and more economical, to obtain an overdraft on public account for the sum required, and for some years the amount of the overdraft was borne on the credit side of the annual statement of assets and liabilities, being regarded as a loan from public account. In recent years, however, it has been recognized as a liability also, and during the year 1893 it was brought to account by a vote of the Legislative Council, and is included in the accounts of the year as an item of expenditure under the head of "Public Works Extraordinary." The sum in question represents past expenditure on account of the following matters, viz. :—

	£	s.	d.
Providing Suva Water Supply -	9,181	19	10
Erection of Government House -	2,255	17	5
Total -	£11,437	17	3

Although this sum appears among the items of expenditure, its inclusion therein does not affect the position of the public account in the bank; and the floating liabilities of the Colony were actually reduced by a sum of 2,082*l.* 5*s.* 1*d.* during the year.

The total expenditure of the year (including the repayment of this sum of 11,437*l.* 17*s.* 3*d.*, was thus 85,981*l.* 15*s.* 1*d.*, being in excess of the revenue by 9,207*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*

The revenue and expenditure for the past five years is shown in the following table :—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Surplus.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1889 - -	63,722 0 6	57,710 2 3	6,011 18 3
1890 - -	66,817 5 1	60,826 6 6	5,990 18 7
1891 - -	71,249 18 11	67,819 17 7	3,430 1 4
1892 - -	71,552 15 2	67,651 12 1	3,901 3 1
1893 - -	76,774 2 7	Ordinary 74,543 17 10	2,230 4 9
		Total 85,981 15 1	Deficit 9,207 12 6

3. Assets and Liabilities.

The statement of assets and liabilities shows at the end of the year 1893 an excess of liabilities amounting to 2,001*l.* 11*s.* 9*d.* This excess stood at 25,359*l.* 18*s.* 8*d.* at 31st December 1888 and has been reduced year by year. It is hoped that in the year 1894 it will be altogether extinguished.

4. Public Debt.

The Public Debt at 31st December 1893 amounted to 239,681*l.* 18*s.* 8*d.* consisting of a loan under debentures bearing interest at the rate of 4½ per cent. of which the balance amounts to 126,600*l.*, and of a debt due to the Imperial Government without interest amounting to 113,081*l.* 18*s.* 8*d.*

The loan was incurred to pay off the debts of the late so-called government of the Fiji Islands (amounting to 100,000*l.*) and for the initiation of public works and coolie immigration.

The debt due to the Imperial Government consists of two advances. The first, amounting to 104,025*l.* 7*s.* 11*d.* (of which 2,080*l.* 10*s.* 2*d.* has been repaid) was made in aid of local revenue during the two years succeeding annexation and was expended on the establishment of Government in the group and on the returning to their homes in the New Hebrides and Solomon Groups of the immigrant labourers introduced into Fiji before the cession of the Colony. The second grant (amounting to 11,364*l.* 6*s.* 7*d.*,* of which 227*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.* has been repaid) was

* This portion of the debt has been remitted.

expended in payment of compensation to German subjects in respect of certain of their claims to land in Fiji disallowed by the Lands Commission.

The extent of the reduction of the Floating Liabilities and Public Debt of the Colony during the past five years, is shewn in the following statement.

Year.	Floating Liability at 31st December.	Public Debt at 31st December.			Reduction during the year.
		Under Debenture.	Due to Imperial Government.	Total.	
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1888 - -	25,359 10 5	137,900 0 0	115,389 14 6	253,289 14 6	—
1889 - -	19,822 15 1	135,700 0 0	115,389 14 6	251,089 14 6	7,736 15 4
1890 - -	13,965 1 5	133,600 0 0	115,389 14 6	248,989 14 6	8,017 13 8
1891 - -	8,174 10 1	131,300 0 0	115,389 14 6	246,689 14 6	8,030 11 4
1892 - -	4,083 16 10	129,000 0 0	114,235 16 7	243,235 16 7	7,544 11 2
1893 - -	2,001 11 9	126,600 0 0	113,081 18 8	239,681 18 8	5,636 3 0

The Public Debt of the Colony was equal to 1*l.* 19*s.* 0*d.* per head of the population at 31st December 1893.

5. MUNICIPALITIES.

The Revenue and Expenditure of the two Municipalities in the Colony, were as follows:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Suva - - - - -	1,607 6 5	1,520 13 5
Levuka - - - - -	924 19 4	937 17 4
Total - - - -	2,532 5 9	2,458 10 9

The Town Boards have no borrowing powers, and there is consequently no debt.

6. PUBLIC WORKS.

The Expenditure on Public Works during the year amounted to 6,979*l.* 4*s.* 8*d.*, appropriated under the following heads:—

	£ s. d.
Roads, Bridges, and Culverts, maintenance of - - - -	547 9 9
Wharfs, repairing - - -	1,514 2 8
Repairs and additions to Government Buildings - - - -	4,299 14 4
Extension of and repairs to Water Supply at Suva and Levuka - -	529 17 1
Botanic Station - - -	88 0 10
Total - - -	£6,979 4 8

7. LEGISLATION.

The only laws of general interest passed consisted of:—

Ordinance No. V. To provide for the recognition in the Colony of Probates and Letters of Administration granted in the United Kingdom, and in other British Possessions and Courts.

Ordinance No. VI. To prohibit the departure or removal of natives from the Colony without the permission of the Governor.

Ordinance No. X. To repeal the Contagious Diseases Ordinances of 1882 and 1885.

8. POPULATION.

The estimated population of the Colony at 31st December, 1893, was as follows:—

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Europeans - - -	1,603	871	2,474
Half-castes - - -	554	571	1,125
Indians - - - -	6,166	3,009	9,175
Polynesians - - -	2,040	373	2,413
Rotumans - - -	985	1,140	2,125
Fijians - - - -	55,921	48,941	104,862
Others - - - -	238	300	538
Total - - -	67,507	55,205	122,712

The births, deaths, and marriages and the respective rates per mille were:—

	Births.	Deaths.	Marriages.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Marriage Rate.
Europeans - -	62	25	25	25·06	10·10	10·10
Half-castes - -	36	14	16	32·00	12·44	14·22
Indians - - -	262	282	90	28·55	30·73	9·80
Polynesians - -	4	66	17	1·65	27·35	7·04
Rotumans - -	113	90	18	53·17	42·35	8·47
Fijians - - -	4,119	5,180	940	39·70	50·12	8·96
Others - - -	4	—	2	7·43	—	3·71
Total - -	4,600	5,659	1,106	37·48	46·11	9·01

FIJI. 1893.

The comparatively heavy death-rate of Fijians was due to the prevalence of Epidemic Influenza and Whooping Cough, the latter being a disease particularly fatal to native children.

The number of Immigrants arriving and departing during the year was:—

	Arrived.	Returned home.
Indians - - - - -	777	573
Polynesians - - - -	—	11
Total - - - -	777	584

9. ECCLESIASTICAL.

The following statistics are furnished by the Religious Missions at work in the colony.

Wesleyan Mission.

Churches - - - -	849
Other preaching places - - -	475
European missionaries - - -	11
Native ministers - - - -	69
Catechists - - - -	52
Teachers - - - -	1,117
Local preachers - - - -	2,062
Class leaders - - - -	3,680
Church members (English and Native) -	30,586
On trial for membership - - -	5,276
Communicants - - - -	17
Catechumens - - - -	7,417
Day schools - - - -	1,894
Day school scholars - - -	37,051
Day school teachers - - -	2,381
Sabbath schools - - - -	1,672
Sabbath school scholars - - -	36,819
Sabbath school teachers - - -	2,435
Adherents - - - -	98,959

Roman Catholic Mission.

European missionaries - - -	23
Churches and chapels - - -	81
Training institutions (European) - -	1
Training institutions (Native) - -	3
Native teachers - - - -	182
European sisters - - - -	20
Adherents - - -	about 9,700
Schools for Natives - - -	145

Schools for Europeans - - -	3
Native scholars - - - -	1,980
European scholars - - -	124
European teachers - - -	3

There are six European Churches in the Colony, of which two belong to the Church of England, two to the Roman Catholic, one to the Presbyterian, and one to the Wesleyan body. These churches are capable of accommodating in the aggregate 990 worshippers.

10. EDUCATION.

Education is free and compulsory. There is a School Board for the town of Suva and one for Levuka. The average attendance at these schools is 135 out of a roll of 190.

The revenue and expenditure of these School Boards are:—

——	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Suva School Board - -	698 2 8	642 13 1
Levuka School Board - -	518 0 2	449 4 10

Government Grants amounting to 642*l.* 3*s.* 0*d.* were made in 1893. There are also two Roman Catholic Schools for European children in Suva and Levuka, with a roll of 147 pupils and an average attendance of 104.

There is a Native technical school maintained by Government where 73 youths were instructed in elementary education and in sawing timber, carpentry and house building, boat and ship-building, and the cultivation of food.

The education of the Native population is in the hands of the Wesleyan and Roman Catholic Missions who furnish the following returns:—

——	Wesleyan.	Roman Catholic.	Total.
Number of schools -	1,894	145	2,039
Average attendance -	37,051	1,980	39,031

11. PUBLICATIONS.

The Colonial Publications consist of a bi-weekly newspaper issued at Suva with a circulation of 500, a weekly newspaper issued at Levuka with a circulation of 200, and a Native newspaper issued monthly by the Colonial Government with a circulation of 500.

Fiji. 1893.

12.—Imports and Exports.

The Imports, Exports, and Total Trade of the Colony during the past five years have been as follows :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total Trade.
	£	£	£
1889 - -	189,393	364,281	553,674
1890 - -	206,757	364,532	571,290
1891 - -	253,049	474,334	727,383
1892 - -	253,586	434,791	688,377
1893 - -	276,398	355,631	632,030

The Imports show a steady advance during each of the five years. The Imports of 1893 show an increase of 46 per cent. on those of 1889.

The Exports of the year 1893, on the other hand, are lower than in any of the five years.

The total trade, however, is the third highest during the period.

The principal imports consist of :—

Breadstuffs (duty free), 19,139*l.*; coal (duty free), 9,604*l.*; drapery, 47,121*l.*; hardware, 11,247*l.*; live stock (duty free), 14,466*l.*; machinery (duty free), 27,068*l.*; meats (duty free), 12,892*l.*; rice, 12,396*l.*; timber, 9,089*l.*; galvanized iron and goods, 5,717*l.*; oils, 5,281*l.*; oats, 5,611*l.*; beer, 3,267*l.*; boots and shoes, 3,410*l.*; and spirits, 3,039*l.*

The quantity and value of the three staple products of the Colony—sugar, green fruit, and copra—exported during the five years in question are given in the following table :—

Year.	Sugar.		Green Fruit.	Copra.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Tons.	£	£	Tons.	£
1889 -	13,178	263,533	42,525	5,567	38,179
1890 -	15,291	244,655	57,525	3,446	31,013
1891 -	20,471	327,526	61,501	5,019	46,431
1892 -	18,883	302,133	62,442	5,901	49,422
1893 -	15,389	246,231	36,597	4,970	42,235

These figures represent Exports the produce of the Colony only.

The total falling off in exports during the year 1893 as compared with the previous year amounts to 79,160*l.* The falling off on the three principal items of export amounts to :—

	£
Sugar - - - - -	55,902
Green fruit - - - -	25,845
Copra - - - - -	7,187
Total - - -	£88,934

The decrease in the export of sugar and copra may be regarded as due principally to floods and inclement weather. The falling off in the export of green fruit is due mainly to the temporary lack of a profitable market in the Australian Colonies, owing to the ruling commercial depression there existing, and the competition of Queensland, and to the prevalence of a disease among the banana plantations of the Colony, in consequence of which a number of the planters have ceased to cultivate fruit, and, embracing the favourable offers made by the sugar mills, have put their land under sugar cane.

The other principal exports consisted of colonial distilled spirits (106,920 gallons, 13,365*l.*) ; desiccated cocoanut (2,121*l.*) ; cocoanuts (1,342*l.*) ; cotton (2,260*l.*) ; maize (2,679*l.*) ; and peanuts (3,587*l.*)

"Colonial distilled spirits" appears for the first time on the list of 1893 as an export of some magnitude.

The following table shows the countries from which the several imports were received during the year :—

Country.	Dutiable.	Free.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
India - - - -	2,423 1 4	146 12 6	2,569 13 10
New Caledonia - -	228 1 0	85 11 6	313 12 6
New Hebrides - -	13 0 0	5 0 0	18 0 0
New South Wales - -	130,388 15 11	63,784 12 2	194,173 8 1
New Zealand - - -	27,921 13 3	13,094 5 10	41,015 19 1
Tonga - - - -	11 13 3	—	11 13 3
United Kingdom - -	3,427 13 2	15,051 12 8	18,479 5 10
United States - - -	3,733 8 10	10 0 0	3,743 8 10
Victoria - - - -	4,178 13 10	10,540 1 3	14,718 15 1
Wallis Island - - -	37 9 5	1,317 0 8	1,354 10 1
Total - - -	172,363 10 0	104,034 16 7	276,398 6 7

Most of the import trade with the United Kingdom passes through one or other of the Australasian Colonies and appears as an import from these Colonies.

FIJI. 1893.

The destination of exports is set forth in the following table :—

Whither Exported.	Value.		
	£	s.	d.
Futuna	10	12	0
Italy	7,855	13	0
Line Islands	6	18	0
New South Wales	63,234	7	4
New Zealand	189,621	3	3
New Caledonia	68	8	0
Portugal	13,746	10	10
Russia	5,934	2	6
Samoa	54	15	6
Tonga	129	14	2
United Kingdom	9,740	16	4
Vancouver	79	8	8
Victoria	65,145	10	9
Wallis Island	3	13	2
Total	355,631	13	6

The total trade of the Colony for the year 1893 was divided among the countries dealt with in the following proportions :—

Countries.	Total Trade.	Percentage.
	£	
New South Wales	257,408	40·73
Victoria	79,864	12·64
New Zealand	230,637	36·49
Total Australian Colonies	567,909	
India	2,570	·41
United Kingdom	28,220	4 46
Russia	5,934	·94
Italy	7,855	1·24
Portugal	13,747	2·17
United States	3,743	·59
Other countries	2,052	·32
Total	632,030	

13.—NAVIGATION.

There was a slight increase in the tonnage of merchant vessels entered at the ports of entry in the Colony during the year.

The figures for the past four years are given hereunder :—

Year.	Steam Vessels.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.
1890	60	49,306	19	7,405	79	56,711
1891	68	57,859	33	11,417	101	69,276
1892	63	55,307	28	16,137	91	69,444
1893	71	64,710	21	10,721	92	75,431

The nationality of the vessels visiting the Colony is shown below :—

Year.	British.		American.		German.		Norwegian.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1890	75	53,337	1	279	1	1,703	2	1,392
1891	88	62,873	5	1,039	2	1,546	6	3,818
1892	78	62,498	3	1,368	2	1,044	5	5,334
1893	79	68,421	2	429	3	2,002	5	3,174

(*continued.*)

Year.	Tongan.		Danish.		Nicaraguan.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1890	—	—	—	—	—	—
1891	—	—	—	—	—	—
1892	1	53	1	474	1	673
1893	1	59	—	—	2	1,346

The increase of tonnage in respect of the year 1893 is probably due to the advent of the Canadian-Australian line of steamers sailing between Sydney and Vancouver, which began to make Suva a port of call in November of that year. The shipping on the registers of the ports of Suva and Levuka at 31st December, 1893 consisted of only six vessels with an aggregate tonnage of 180 tons.

But, except for the interinsular steamer, which is not locally registered, almost the whole of the internal trade of the Colony is carried on in vessels which are of small tonnage and are unregistered.

The number and tonnage of such vessels, holding, at the end of the year 1893, seagoing certificates issued by the Fiji Marine Board, were :—

	No.	Tonnage.
European-owned vessels	97	1,280
Native-owned vessels	211	1,664
Total	308	2,944

The foregoing statement does not include canoes or open boats, and a number of native-owned vessels employed in the Provinces are also unrepresented therein.

14. LAND AND AGRICULTURE.

The estimated acreage of the Colony is 4,953,920 acres. Of this area 422,998 have been granted, leaving 4,530,962 in the hands of the natives.

It is estimated that 37,311 acres of land are under cultivation by Europeans in crop as follows:—

	Acres.
Peanuts	238
Bananas	2,031
Pineapples	80
Beans	14
Cocoanuts	17,427
Maize	435
Sugar Cane	15,759
Tobacco	111
Cotton	20
Rice	146
Limes	11
Sisal Hemp	160
Yams	171
Potatoes, Kumalas, &c	183
Tea	460
Other produce	65
Total	37,311

The area under Sugar Cane has increased, while those under Rice, Sisal Hemp, and Limes are reported for the first time. The cultivation of bananas has diminished, for reasons mentioned under the head of "Exports."

The live-stock owned by Europeans is returned at the following figures:—

Horses	1,381
Horned cattle	10,134
Sheep	5,082
Goats	4,179

These figures indicate a general increase except in the case of sheep which appear to have diminished by about a thousand in number. The supply of cattle is equal to the demand, which consists mainly of the requirements of the European communities in the towns and at the sugar mills.

15 MANUFACTORIES.

The manufactories of the Colony are reported to consist of eleven sugar mills with a nominal daily output of 136 tons; two tea factories capable of turning out 600 lbs. of dried tea per diem, two desiccated cocoanut factories, fourteen boat-building yards, and one tobacco factory.

16. Hospital.

Seven hundred and fifty-six cases were treated in the colonial hospital during the year, resulting in 43 deaths, or 5·78 per centum of the cases treated.

Of these cases only twenty-six were Europeans, of whom three died,—one from senile decay, one of Hepatic abscess, and one from the results of an accidental gunshot wound of the brain.

17. Meteorology.

The rainfall for the year at Suva amounted to 96·45 inches. The average rainfall for the past seven years has been 106·95 inches.

The absolute maximum temperature during the year at Suva occurred on 24th December, when the thermometer registered 94° Fahr. in the shade. The absolute minimum was 62° Fahr. on 27th July. The mean minimum temperature for the year was 72° Fahr., the mean maximum being 84°.

Some parts of the Colony are much drier, however, than the capital, and in the interior of Viti Levu a much lower temperature is experienced.

18. Communication.

Steam communication with Sydney was regularly maintained (except when interfered with by the operation of quarantine) by two steamers a month and with Melbourne by one steamer a month.

Communication with New Zealand was maintained by one direct monthly steamer and also, during a portion of the year, by one steamer viâ Tonga and Samoa. The usual number of irregular steamers ran during the sugar season. On 24th November 1893, the first steamer of the Canadian-Australian Line called at Suva, and the steamers of this Line have called regularly since that date on both the outward and the homeward trip. It is hoped that this company will become a permanent institution, an end to which the Government of the Colony will contribute as far as lies in its power. The great advantage derived by the Colony is that through this line the Colony is brought within thirty days journey of London, and is placed on the highway of nations instead of being, as it has ever hitherto been, in point of accessibility, the most distant of Her Majesty's Possessions.

19. General.

The Native market erected in Suva last year was used during 1893 by 4,191 Native vendors, who disposed of produce to the value of 1,658*l*.

Trade and communication was considerably hampered owing to the unfortunate necessity for enforcing quarantine during a great part of the year 1893, in consequence of the prevalence

Fiji. 1893.

of measles in the Australian Colonies and New Zealand and in certain of the neighbouring groups of Islands.

The actual cost of maintaining quarantine amounted to 619*l.* but this sum is much less than the loss caused by disarranging the running of steamers and otherwise affecting trade for the worse. The disease was three times brought to the Colony by vessels, but was in each case detained in quarantine, and did not spread to the Native community.

It is some ten years since a previous epidemic necessitated similar precautions, and it is expected that the late epidemic will in all probability ensure a similar period of immunity.

(Signed) J. Stewart,
Assistant Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 143.

GAMBIA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1894.

(For Report for 1893, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 106.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty
15 *August* 1895.

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1895.

[C.—7847-4.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions, have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
111	Turks and Caicos Islands	1893
112	Leeward Islands	,,
113	Barbados	,,
114	Malta	,,
115	Zululand	,,
116	British Honduras	,,
117	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
118	Falkland Islands	,,
119	Rodrigues	,,
120	Mauritius	,,
121	Straits Settlements	,,
122	Labuan	,,
123	Basutoland	1893–94
124	St. Lucia	1893
125	St. Helena	,,
126	Ceylon	,,
127	Fiji	,,
128	Grenada	,,
129	Sierra Leone	,,
130	British Bechuanaland	1893–94
131	British New Guinea	1892–3& 1893–94
132	Lagos	1893
133	British Guiana	1893–94
134	Jamaica	,,
135	Newfoundland	1893
136	Gold Coast	,,
137	Zululand	1894
138	Bermuda	,,
139	Bahamas	,,
140	Barbados	,,
141	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
142	Malta	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.

No. 143.

GAMBIA.

(For Report for 1893, *see* Colonial Report [Annual], No. 106.)

Administrator LLEWELYN to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House, Bathurst,
May 20, 1895.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship in duplicate Blue Book of the Colony of the Gambia for the year 1894, with my report thereon.

I have, &c.
R. B. LLEWELYN,
Administrator.

BLUE BOOK REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1894.

An abnormal fall of rain, far heavier in the Upper river than at Bathurst, at the end of December 1893, ushered in an unfortunate year for the Colony of the Gambia, and that phenomenal occurrence affected not only the whole trade and prosperity of the people for the year 1894, but has mainly contributed to the present general depression in business.

2. The climate of the Gambia has often been described, so that perhaps the following comparative rainfall and other meteorological returns may not be considered of any general public interest, but that little fall of rain in December 1893, by damaging the staple product of the Colony, just after it had been pulled and before it was stored, has impeded progress in civilization and been felt in every hut throughout the Colony and Protectorate by reducing the revenue to 23,797*l.*, against an estimate of 31,000*l.*

COMPARATIVE RAINFALL, COLONY OF THE GAMBIA.

	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.
January	—	·01	—	·02	—
February	—	·16	—	—	—
March	—	—	—	—	—
April	—	—	·01	·40	·07
May	·04	·53	1·38	2·16	—
June	2·40	4·67	3·05	—	5·33
July	16·42	7·42	14·89	20·57	16·54
August	19·90	18·84	22·65	30·57	18·64
September	16·58	19·81	4·76	13·00	13·35
October	4·97	1·97	4·39	7·33	1·29
November	—	—	—	·15	·64
December	—	—	—	·40	—
	60·31	53·41	51·13	77·89	55·86

Average, 59·72.

GILBERT ELLIOTT, Acting Colonial Surgeon.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS, 1894.

1894. Months.	Average for month at 7 a.m.			Maximum in shade at 3 p.m.			Minimum in shade at 7 a.m.			Rainfall in inches.		
	Dry Bulb.	Wet Bulb.	Dew point.	Highest.	Lowest.	Average.	Highest.	Lowest.	Average.	Total.	Maximum.	Date.
January	66·2	58·8	51·5	90·5	73·	84·1	67·	56·	61·8	—	—	—
February	65·7	58·8	51·8	94·	70·5	80·6	66·	63·	62·	—	—	—
March	67·7	63·6	60·3	95·	73·	78·	70·	63·	65·3	—	—	—
April	71·	65·3	60·9	101·	74·5	85·1	70·5	59·5	65·7	0·07	·07	23-4-94
May	74·9	70·6	67·5	95·	76·5	84·7	73·	66·	69·9	—	—	—
June	77·6	73·8	71·1	93·	80·	85·9	75·5	67·	72·5	5·33	3·09	6-6-94
July	77·5	74·8	72·9	89·5	80·5	85·4	76·	67·	72·5	16·54	4·30	19-7-94
August	76·9	74·5	72·8	86·	79·	83·7	76·	69·	72·	18·64	3·25	19-8-94
September	77·5	75·4	73·9	87·5	79·	84·9	77·	68·	62·6	13·35	2·17	4-9-94
October	78·	75·4	73·60	91·5	82·	85·	78·	71·	74·	1·29	·76	4-10-94
November	74·7	69·3	65·4	90·	73·	84·1	77·	64·	70·7	0·64	·28	22-11-94
December	65·2	59·7	67·6	90·	59·	72·6	70·	55·	63·5	—	—	—

Total rainfall for 1894—55·86 inches.

GILBERT ELLIOTT.—Acting Colonial Surgeon.

In a good regular season rain should fall steadily between the middle of June and the middle of October, and during the rest of the year (eight months) there should not be even a shower.

3. To explain further the present depression in the trade and revenue; it now appears that the ground-nuts which were damaged and discoloured by the rain in December 1893 were not purchased by the traders in 1894, but unfortunately, the native planters risked sowing these nuts left on their hands, as they could not purchase better, and the result was that only about half germinated, causing the crop for shipment in the year 1895 to be one of the smallest on record.

4. The Public Revenue must always be a source of anxiety to the Government when there is only a single staple industry, and to remedy if possible this unsound condition of affairs here a Botanical Station was started in April at Kotu, near the coast in Combo, about ten miles from Bathurst.

It is too early to say yet whether any good will result from the scheme, but the Curator, selected from Kew Gardens, has enclosed within a wire fence about 28 acres of land and cleared a small portion, on which he has experimented with cotton, indigo, and other seeds.

5. The cultivation of Cotton and Indigo, the weaving of the narrow strips of cloth which are dyed with the indigo and roughly sewn together making the cloths known as "pagns" with which the natives clothe themselves, have always formed part of the industries of the country, and as far as I have observed the same primitive methods are still adopted by the natives in weaving and dyeing, and indeed I may say in all their habits, as the first European travellers found here, and have described in their books written 200 years ago.

6. It is perhaps rather discouraging to find in the present day, within a few miles of the capital town of this old-established Colony, the natives living in the same style of huts, wearing the same style of clothes, tilling the ground with the same sort of rough tools, pounding their corn, spinning their cotton, and in fact living in every way as they have done for centuries before they ever saw a European.

7. I have often talked on this subject with intelligent natives, but they are the most ultra-conservative race of people I have ever met, without apparently any ambition, their answer generally being that "They met it so," and "Their fathers and grandfathers did it before." "It might be good for White man but not suit Mandingo." And the young children will tell you, "Their fathers and mothers talk Mandingo; why should they learn English?" And I wonder when, if ever, a change will take place in the manners and customs of this part of Africa?

8. The slow progress in civilization is probably due, to some extent, to the want of example and contact with Europeans, for

very few Natives a short distance up the river have ever visited Bathurst. They do not care about travelling on the water and no doubt the accommodation they get in a small cutter is not inviting.

With this condition of affairs in view I recommended that a steamer should be built for regular mail and passenger service up and down the river as far as McCarthy Island (153 miles) every week. The "Mansah Kilah" or "Queen's Messenger," a paddle steamer, 90 feet long and drawing only 5½ feet of water, arrived out from England in February and is now running up and down the river regularly every week. Her cost, delivered out here, was 3,500*l*. She steams about 8 knots an hour, and burns about 4 tons of coal in running to and from McCarthy Island (306 miles). So far she has done very well but it was never calculated that she would earn enough to pay for her working expenses, nearly 2,000*l*. per annum, but she was started as a civilizing peaceful messenger from the Governor in Bathurst to the Mandingoes up the river, and they apparently appreciate it, several having been to Bathurst already who had never ventured so far before.

9. It must I fear be admitted that mission work and education have not been pushed as they ought to have been, from the base at Bathurst, where we have had a footing for nearly a century. The schools in Bathurst do fairly good work, but the average daily attendance of 600 children, out of a population of at least 6,000, is not satisfactory and would seem to indicate that the managers of these Christian schools have not in the past succeeded in establishing branches up in the country or combating successfully with Mahommedanism, or Paganism, even in Bathurst. Perhaps one of the great obstacles has been the want of teachers with a knowledge of the Mandingo language; without which qualification it is almost hopeless to attempt any such work. I have just succeeded in getting an elderly person as schoolmistress at Busumballa, in Combo Protectorate, and am endeavouring to get other teachers who can talk Mandingo, and there are signs that the missions are moving in the matter.

10. The inhabitants of Bathurst are descended from the settlers who came from Senegal in 1816 and are mostly of Joloff extraction, so that the better educated natives in the town either speak Joloff or English, but the language of the Gambia Protectorate and far beyond it is Mandingo. It seems therefore to be a growing necessity that all the Native officials should speak Mandingo, and I have recently in a circular impressed this upon them. Unfortunately the European officers have to be changed so often that before they have time to acquire any language they are transferred to another Colony, where, even on the West Coast, the language spoken will be entirely different.

11. In looking back at what I have written on the present condition of the Colony, or rather perhaps trading Port, of Bathurst, I try to seek for a cause why the River Gambia, undoubtedly

the best waterway in this part of Africa, should not have been turned to more advantage in the past.

12. The termination of the exportation of slaves by Europeans did not end slave-hunting and dealing by the Natives, and they found the waterways of the Gambia advantageous to them for transferring their slaves from place to place; hence it has never been possible in the past for natives living on the banks of the river to quietly follow agricultural pursuits, for the country has been devastated and depopulated nearly up to the very doors of Bathurst by slave-hunters and marauders who were attracted by the waterway.

13. The obligation of the Brussels Conference Act, and the delimitation of the boundary of the Gambia Protectorate, forced the Government to take some active measures or else to practically abandon the old Colony and rights on the Gambia to slave hunters and marauders like Fodi Kabba and Fodi Silah, for there could be no trade or peace as long as they had any power on the River.

14. The punitive expedition against the last named occurred during the year under review, and although all regret the loss of life that occurred in the first attack, yet I am convinced that nothing but force would ever have stopped Fodi Silah from slave-hunting and marauding, which he carried on regularly within ten miles of Bathurst.

15. For years past he has been a pest to the Gambia, and a cruel tyrant in his country, where he kept a band of mercenaries recruited from interior tribes (Karbunkas) ready to commit any outrage for plunder. In 1887 he nearly forced on a quarrel with the late Sir Samuel Rowe at a friendly palaver he went to at Brikama.

In 1891 he stopped the officers of the Anglo French Boundary Commission and then insulted them as far as he could. Latterly, he apparently saw that between the two civilized powers of England and France his career as a slave-hunter was doomed, but he recklessly and fanatically held out, declining all friendly overtures made to him, and at last forced on the Government the punitive expedition sent against him in February.

16. As soon as he and his mercenaries had been defeated and fled, the real native inhabitants settled down peaceably and were thankful to be placed under English rule instead of Fodi Silah.

I recently walked all through this part of the Protectorate without any escort or weapons of defence and consider that life and property is now as safe in Combo as in any Colony I know of.

17. The conquest of "Foreign" Combo, as Fodi Silah's country was called, and its forming part of the Protectorate leads me on to report what has been done towards civilizing and governing the Gambia Protectorate in general since the limits were defined by

the Anglo-French Boundary Commission. In January 1893 two travelling commissioners were appointed, one for each bank of the river, to travel through the country and ascertain what there was, either in the shape of towns, or people or anything else, within the boundary, for there was absolutely no data of any sort to work upon, with the object of establishing some form of civilized Government and to put a stop if possible to slave-dealing within the Protectorate.

18. Since then much information has been obtained, geographically and otherwise, about the country and the people and their sentiments, and on the 27th of December last, two ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council with the above objects and they are now being put in operation.

19. The Protectorate is patrolled regularly for eight months in the year by Commissioners for about 100 miles (rather more on the north bank) up the river as well as in Combo and Fogni. It has been divided into 17 districts, each placed under the management of a Head Chief, appointed by the Administrator, from whom he takes orders and to whom he is responsible for the peace and maintenance of good order in his district.

Native Courts in each district, presided over by the Head Chief, associated with four headmen from other towns in the district, will be held shortly for the trial of minor offences and offences against native customs.

The travelling Commissioners have already commenced to hold regular magistrates' courts in the Protectorate, and the Native Chiefs themselves have on more than one occasion voluntarily sent to Bathurst, for trial in the Supreme Court, persons who have committed serious crimes; and thus has been commenced a form of Government in what was three years ago a wild country, where an European was rarely seen.

20. The ordinance for the abolition of slave-dealing will gradually, but quickly, lead up to the complete extinction of domestic slavery, and indeed I may now say that since the Travelling Commissioners have been visiting the Protectorate the natives have understood that the English would not allow slavery in any form to continue, and they have wisely accepted the situation to an extent that I could not have deemed possible or even hoped for three years ago. The Registrar in Bathurst in his Report for the year 1894 writes as follows:—

"97 natives of Africa, 44 males and 53 females, were liberated from slavery during the year through the intervention of the Travelling Commissioners and the police. A large number of these have settled in Bathurst and in the dependencies of the Colony under the protection of the British flag and a few have returned to their native homes. It was a pleasure to hear, as the writer has often done, these poor people's fervent outpourings of gratitude for their liberation from slavery."

In this report on the Blue Book for the year 1894 it is only possible to refer to the passing of the Protectorate Ordinances in December, but at the time of my writing it (May 1895) the executive action is nearly completed to put them in full operation.

21. There is now, I hope, some prospect of advancement here. Up till last year the old system of trade exclusively by barter was carried on through numerous middlemen who went up the river every dry season. I have no doubt they had hard times with marauders such as Saide Matte, Fodi Kabba, and Fodi Silah, &c., but with these rascals cleared off, and the establishment of a civilized government, the merchants begin to realize that they can now with safety start stores in the Protectorate and send cash as well as goods up the river.

22. It is time, too, now that the inhabitants of Bathurst should begin to understand that the wealth of the country is in the soil, and money is to be made in other ways than merely by bartering or selling goods.

There are, I am glad to report, applications now before me from persons in Bathurst who wish to get land to cultivate in Combo, for I hope all see now, both natives in Bathurst and the Mandingoes in the Protectorate, that the planter will reap what he sows and not be robbed of it by marauders.

23. Following the peaceable settlement of Combo the rubber trade has increased considerably and there is plenty of it in Fogni. Wax, too, which has from time immemorial been an export of the Gambia, has taken a little start. It is still collected in the same old pattern of hives hung up on the trees and prepared in the same rough fashion by the natives just as they did in the days of the Royal African Company 200 years ago.

The rice grown on the banks of the Gambia is pronounced to be equal to the best in the world, but it is only cultivated here by the women for their own "pin money" and large quantities are imported every year for consumption.

With Chinese or Coolie labourers there is ample room here for practically an unlimited cultivation of rice and perhaps, with security to life and property, this enterprise may be taken up by some capitalist.

Piassava—vegetable-ivory, fibres and grasses of many sorts abound, which I believe can be turned to account, and I hope the Protectorate will at no very distant date become a peaceable settlement for agriculturists, instead of a hunting ground for slaves.

24. A fine new pier on iron piles with a T-head, 210 feet long, was completed during the year 1894 at Bathurst, at a cost of 7,000*l.* and ought to be an advantage to steamers when time is an object, as they can lie alongside the pier and discharge cargo from both hatches at the same time. As the mail steamers are

generally behind time it will perhaps assist them a little to being more punctual; but quick passenger and mail boats, with first-class accommodation, are still wanting on the West Coast of Africa under the English flag. The Messágeries steamers run with the regularity of clock-work from Dakar to Bordeaux, calling at Lisbon, in eight days, but the English mail boats take 14 days from the same port to Liverpool, calling at Teneriffe and Madeira, and there is no regularity in the time of the homeward voyage, as each mail boat waits and searches for cargo all the way up the coast. With more comfortable first-class steamers, tourists and business men might be induced to visit the Gambia in the dry season and go up the river for sport or with the object of seeing life in West Africa before the inhabitants become civilized.

Within 3,000 miles of England it is still possible to shoot big game, and live by your gun, on the banks of the Gambia, and to see real wild African life and scenery, but it is difficult to persuade Europeans who are independent to face the climate, which I must allow is trying, but not quite the certain death it is generally considered to be.

May 20, 1895. R. B. LLEWELYN.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 146.

GIBRALTAR.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1894.

(For Report for 1893, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 109.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1895.

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1895.

[C.—7847.—7.]

The following, among other Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions, have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
113	Barbados	1893
114	Malta	,,
115	Zululand	,,
116	British Honduras	,,
117	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
118	Falkland Islands	,,
119	Rodrigues	,,
120	Mauritius	,,
121	Straits Settlements	,,
122	Labuan	,,
123	Basutoland	1893–94
124	St. Lucia	1893
125	St. Helena	,,
126	Ceylon	,,
127	Fiji	,,
128	Grenada	,,
129	Sierra Leone	,,
130	British Bechuanaland	1893–94
131	British New Guinea	1892–3 & 1893–94
132	Lagos	1893
133	British Guiana	1893–94
134	Jamaica	,,
135	Newfoundland	1893
136	Gold Coast	,,
137	Zululand	1894
138	Bermuda	,,
139	Bahamas	,,
140	Barbados	,,
141	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
142	Malta	,,
143	Gambia	,,
144	Windward Islands	,,
145	Trinidad and Tobago	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.

No. 146.

GIBRALTAR.

[For Report for 1893, *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 109.]

Sir ROBERT BIDDULPH to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

SIR, Gibraltar, July 11, 1895.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, herewith, the Blue Book for 1894, together with a report thereon by the Colonial Secretary.

2. I am glad to observe that the revenue for 1894 has shown an appreciable increase over 1893, amounting to not less than 75,000 Pesetas, after deducting extraordinary receipts for both years. The receipts exceeded the expenditure by 64,000 Pesetas, and the surplus assets account shows an increase of 15,382 over the preceding year.

3. It is also satisfactory to find that the shipping entered and cleared during 1894 shows an increased tonnage, exhibiting a recovery of more than a million tons from the great depression of the year 1892. This increase has not, however, been accompanied by a corresponding increase in coaling, for the amount of coal taken by ships in 1894 was rather less than in 1893.

4. The calling of ships, from whatever cause, is, nevertheless, advantageous to the place, since the port dues form the principal tem of revenue.

5. With a view to giving facilities to vessels which call here, an arrangement has been made with Lloyds, whereby a ship may have its orders signalled to it without entering the port, for which in certain cases a small fee is paid in lieu of port dues.

6. The general condition of Gibraltar during the past year has been satisfactory. The health has been good, although the small-pox hospital was open during the whole year. The prevalence of that malady is not due to any neglect on the part of the medical or sanitary authorities of this place, and very few of the cases admitted could be attributed to infection in Gibraltar. The disease was imported from Linea, where it was very virulent and where few sanitary precautions are observed, and many of the cases were landed from ships in the Bay.

7. Serious crimes on the part of the inhabitants of Gibraltar are rare. On the 31st December 1894 there were but 15 persons in prison, of whom only three were natives of Gibraltar.

8. Very little legislation has been needed. Out of eight Ordinances passed in 1894, six were to amend old enactments and were of no great importance. The two new laws were to deal with municipal matters of a minor character.

9. The extensive works now being carried on by the Admiralty have caused a great demand for labour, which is largely supplied by Spaniards who come in daily for the purpose.

I have, &c.
ROBERT BIDDULPH,
General and Governor.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1894.

Revenue.

The Revenue from all sources during the year 1894, amounted to Ptas. 1,580,419, a net increase of Ptas. 57,438 over that for 1893.

The Heads showing increase of Ptas. 2,500 and upwards were:—

	Ptas.
Duty on Wines - - - -	8,115
Port dues on vessels entering - -	17,106
Hospital receipts - - - -	8,298
Postage and Commission on Money Orders	11,957
Telegraph Service - - -	5,674
North Front Rents - - -	3,534

The increases in Post-office, Money-order, and Telegraph services are mainly due to the adjustments for those services with Spain having been effected more punctually than has hitherto been found practicable, so that five quarters were brought to account in 1894. The increase of receipts is balanced by an almost corresponding increase in payments for Post-office services due to the same cause.

The income for the year was increased by repayments by the War Office and the Sanitary Commission of amounts due from them in connection with the South-port Ditch Pumping Station, and the Deep Borings on the North Front.

The only decreases of over Ptas. 2,500 were in Hulk Licences, which yielded Ptas. 5,095 less than in 1893, owing to the number of hulks being lessened, which, to some extent, relieves the overcrowding of the anchorage; and, under head of Interest on Investments in England, which was Ptas. 3,192 less than the previous year. This difference represents the interest on investments realized early in 1893, the proceeds of which were reinvested in property in Gibraltar. The Savings Bank Profits show an apparent decrease of Ptas. 61,746, but this is caused by

the profits for 1889 to 1892, inclusive, having been brought to account in 1893.

Expenditure.

The total expenditure for 1894, was Ptas. 1,516,375 or Ptas. 56,227 above that of 1893, but it includes an amount of Ptas. 78,000 for purchase of the "Grange" property.

	Ptas.
The only increases above Ptas. 2,500 were in Post Office and Money Order System	9,574
Supreme Court	5,325
Hospital	9,376

The first of these has already been explained. The increase under head of Supreme Court was owing to undrawn salaries for 1893 being brought to account in 1894; and the increased cost of the hospital was owing to a large number of patients treated, and was nearly balanced by increased receipts from paying patients.

The following services showed decreased expenditure owing to reduction of establishment:—

	Ptas.
Police Court	2,813
Police Department	5,255
Colonial Engineer's Department	18,295

Pensions were reduced by Ptas. 4,442, and on Public Works recurrent and extraordinary there was expended Ptas. 24,746 less than in 1893.

Assets and Liabilities.

The balance of assets over liabilities on the 31st December 1894 amounted to Ptas. 269,924 as compared to Ptas. 254,541 in 1893.

In his annual financial report, the Colonial Treasurer points out that not only has the Government "paid its way," but the purchase of "Grange" property has been met from current funds, and a sum of 1,030*l.* sterling has been added to our small investments in England, which now reach about 6,000*l.* Mr. Williams adds, "I venture to think that this is a very satisfactory "state of things, for, though the amounts are small, it indicates "a revival in the finances of the Colony, and economy and care in "administration."

There is no Public Debt. The debt of the Sanitary Commissioners secured on the general sanitary purposes rates stood at 52,200*l.* sterling; the amount of their receipts from assessment was 14,414*l.*, their gross revenue was 32,704*l.* and total expenditure 30,355*l.*

GIBRALTAR. 1894.

Shipping.

Vessels entered and cleared.

Vessels.	Number.		Tonnage.		Crews.	
	1893.	1894.	1893.	1894.	1893.	1894.
British steam ships	6,167	6,366	7,058,687	7,571,910	198,255	207,166
„ sailing ships	400	421	30,780	23,859	2,223	1,924
Total British ships	6,567	6,787	7,089,467	7,595,769	200,478	209,090
Foreign steamships	2,642	2,509	2,077,109	2,170,532	83,637	87,804
„ sailing ships	1,046	955	81,443	74,706	6,468	5,634
Total Foreign ships	3,688	3,464	2,158,552	2,245,238	90,105	93,438
Total Vessels -	10,255	10,251	9,248,019	9,841,007	290,583	302,528
Increase or Decrease in 1894 -	4 Decrease.		592,988 Increase.		11,945 Increase.	

These figures are on the whole satisfactory, as, though the number of vessels entering is about the same, there has been an increase of tonnage of very nearly six per cent. The port dues have not increased quite in the same ratio, as all vessels above 1,800 tons pay the same rate, so that the large passenger steamships of 6,000 tons and upwards pay no more than the vessels of 3,000 tons and upwards, which they have replaced.

Gibraltar, as a port of call for shipping, is thus only just holding its own, while neighbouring ports are showing considerable increase. Improved facilities for repairs to vessels and for quick despatch in coaling could not fail to attract many vessels which now go elsewhere.

Exchange.

The highest rate of exchange in 1894 was Ptas. 31·27 to the £ sterling, and the lowest Ptas. 27·87. The Government quarterly rates were as follows :—

	Ptas.
March quarter - - - -	30·73
June quarter - - - -	30·84
September quarter - - - -	30·55
December quarter - - - -	30·53

Towards the end of the year, there was a sudden rise in the value of the Peseta, which fluctuated as much as ten per cent. in a few weeks, but it is returning tolerably steadily to the former rates, the exchange on the 12th instant being Pesetas 29·20. It is very

difficult to find the reason of these sudden fluctuations, which local bankers profess themselves unable to explain, but there is a general opinion that the exchange value of the Peseta will not vary long from about Pesetas 30·50 to the £ sterling.

Legislation.

The laws passed during the year were:—

No. 1. An Ordinance to Control the Introduction for Sale of Water in Gibraltar.

No. 2. An Ordinance to Amend Certain Enactments in Force in Gibraltar.

No. 3. An Ordinance to Amend the Coroner's Ordinance, Gibraltar, 1889.

No. 4. An Ordinance to Amend the Post Office (Protection) Ordinance, Gibraltar, 1885.

No. 5. The Petroleum Amendment Ordinance.

No. 6. The Colonial Hospital Amendment Ordinance.

No. 7. The Traffic Regulation Ordinance.

No. 8. An Ordinance to Amend the Hackney Carriage Ordinance, Gibraltar 1890.

Establishment.

In January 1894, Mr. Cavendish Boyle, C.M.G., was transferred to British Guiana, and the post of Colonial Secretary was filled by the transfer of Captain Henry M. Jackson, C.M.G., from the Bahamas.

In the same month the Colonial Engineer and Inspector of Schools, Captain Buckle, was appointed Director of Public Works in Trinidad, and his duties were provided for by the provisional appointment of Colonel Fellowes, Commanding Royal Engineers, as Acting Colonial Engineer; Mr. A. M. Coll, M.A., B.C.L., being appointed Inspector of Schools.

During the latter part of the year, arrangements were made to amalgamate the Port and Treasury Departments, and the change took effect from 1st January 1895, the combined departments being placed under charge of the Colonial Treasurer, the former Captain of the Port, Captain Baker, R.N., being retired on pension on 31st December 1894.

Education.

The figures show no great change, the number of children on the books in 1894 being 1,784, with an average attendance of 1,272, as compared with 1,742, with an attendance of 1,263, in 1893. The main difference is that the large poor schools managed

GIBRALTAR. 1894.

by the Christian Brothers appear to be attracting the children from the other schools, as will be seen by the following table:—

Name of School.	Number on books.	
	1893.	1894.
Roman Catholic Poor Schools (Christian Brothers) - - - -	1,071	1,227
Wesleyan - - - - -	120	95
Infant Industrial - - - -	182	173
Public - - - - -	258	222
Hebrew Poor - - - -	111	67
	1,742	1,784

The Inspector's report is on the whole satisfactory, though he observes a tendency to devote much time and trouble to more advanced subjects before the children are sufficiently grounded in the elementary ones.

The Roman Catholics are building large new poor schools in the town, to replace their present premises, and the Hebrew community are preparing to erect new buildings, their present accommodation being quite inadequate.

Hospitals.

The Colonial Hospital well maintained its efficiency during the year, in the course of which 14,911 out-patients attended the dispensary, as compared with 11,532 in 1893. The in-patients also showed a considerable increase, there being 715 persons treated in 1894, as against 602 in 1893.

The cost was Ptas. 9,376, more than in 1893, but this is almost entirely due to the heavy charges incurred for the branch small-pox hospital on the North Front, which had to be kept open throughout the year, entailing extra nurses and watchmen. Owing to the exceptionally dry summer, and the large number of patients, water ran short and had to be purchased daily for some months. When these heavy unforeseen charges are taken into consideration, and also the great increase in the number of both in and out-patients attending the general hospital, it will be seen that the increased cost was due to unavoidable causes, and not to want of economy in administration.

The Lunatic Asylum was well and carefully managed, an average number of 56 patients being maintained at a rate of Ptas. 736 a head, the average number in 1893 having been 46, and the cost of maintenance Ptas. 862 a head.

Criminal Statistics.

The number of summary convictions before the police magistrate in 1894 was 1,084, or 349 more than in 1893. In addition, 319 were brought up and discharged with a caution, 187 persons were discharged for want of prosecution, being 71 more than in 1893; and 59 cases were dismissed on the merits, or 18 less than in 1893. The majority of these cases were for minor offences.

Fifteen persons were committed for trial in the Supreme Court namely:—

6 for offences against the person.
4 for offences against property.
1 for uttering counterfeit coins.
1 for attempted suicide.
2 for perjury.
1 for forgery and fraud.

Public Works.

The only public work beyond the ordinary and special repairs to existing buildings was the erection of a new post office at Tangier, the structure of which was completed in 1894, though the fittings were not finished until early in the present year. The work has been well carried out, and the building is found to be suitable and convenient.

H. JACKSON,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Gibraltar, June 29, 1895.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 136.

GOLD COAST.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1893.

[For Report for 1892 *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 88.]

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
May 1895.

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1895.

[C.—7629–19.]

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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
104	Victoria	1892
105	Bermuda	1893
106	Gambia	,,
107	Hong Kong	,,
108	St. Vincent	,,
109	Gibraltar	,,
110	Bahamas	,,
111	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
112	Leeward Islands	,,
113	Barbados	,,
114	Malta	,,
115	Zululand	,,
116	British Honduras	,,
117	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
118	Falkland Islands	,,
119	Rodrigues	,,
120	Mauritius	,,
121	Straits Settlements	,,
122	Labuan	,,
123	Basutoland	1893–94
124	St. Lucia	1893
125	St. Helena	,,
126	Ceylon	,,
127	Fiji	,,
128	Grenada	,,
129	Sierra Leone	,,
130	British Bechuanaland	1893–94
131	British New Guinea	1892–3 & 1893–4
132	Lagos	1893
133	British Guiana	1893–4
134	Jamaica	,,
135	Newfoundland	1893

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.

No. 136.

GOLD COAST.

[For Report for 1892 *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 88.]

Sir W. B. GRIFFITH to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House, Christiansborg Castle,
MY LORD, Accra, February 22, 1895.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a report on the Blue Book for the year 1893 which I received from the Colonial Secretary on the 21st instant.

2. The report affords the fullest evidence of the attention, care, and pains which Mr. Hodgson has taken in its preparation. It is very full, and I may say exhaustive, with reference to the various matters touched upon in it, and will afford very useful information to those who take an interest in the Gold Coast, as indicating the immense progress which has been made in the Colony of late years, of its great yielding power as regards exports, and of its capacity to consume vast quantities of imports:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
The first of these being for the year under notice represented by	718,353	0	0
and the exports by	722,106	0	0
Making a total volume of trade for 1893 of	1,440,459	0	0

the highest amount ever reached; whilst the five years from 1880 to 1893 show a steady increase in the value of both imports and exports, except as regards 1892, when there was a falling off of 19,000*l.* in the exports. I will not enter further into details because these are given with such fulness and value in the report that I should simply be repeating a portion of it unnecessarily.

GOLD COAST. 1893.

3. There are one or two points, however, relative to which I think I should make some remarks, especially with regard to the financial position of the Colony.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
The revenue in 1892 was - - -	183,075	0	0
In 1893 - - - - -	201,783	0	0
Showing an increase in the revenue of 1893 of - - - - -	18,708	0	0

over that of 1892, or over 10 per cent., whilst, after allowing for the expenditure of the year, a balance remained on hand on 31st December 1893, of 175,615*l.*, whilst the Colony is entirely free from debt, and to show how light the pressure of taxation is upon the people of this country, I would mention that in 1893, with the increased revenue, it was only 2*s.* 8*d.*, per head.

4. Your Lordship will observe under the head of "Local Revenue" the remarks which the Colonial Secretary has made relative to the question of the application of the municipal system of government to Accra, the capital town of the Colony, and the larger and more important of the coast towns, which he states cannot much longer be deferred, and in this regard your Lordship will have had before you a Towns Council Ordinance, which was prepared chiefly by Mr. Ashmore, the late Acting Colonial Secretary of this Colony, based upon his experience of the advantage to all parties of corresponding legislation in the Island of Ceylon. Some of the people here have been stirred up into opposition to putting the machinery of this Ordinance into motion, and I do not propose to take any action with regard to it until your Lordship shall have had an opportunity of seeing the objections that have been taken to the Ordinance, but I do not hesitate to state, in passing, that the movement has proceeded solely from interested persons possessed of property as well as from some of the European traders who have instigated the natives to opposition, all parties being more or less opposed to any legislation—and it is not surprising that they should be—which is calculated to inflict the slightest tax upon them.

5. Your Lordship will observe in the concluding paragraph of Mr. Hodgson's able and interesting paper the expression of his regret that this report on the Blue Book for 1893 should have been so delayed, and he points out the reason for this in the fact that he was away on leave of absence from the 11th March to the 20th of November and found on his return that the work of writing the report had not been taken up. This is explained by the circumstance that Mr. Ashmore, who acted temporarily for Mr. Hodgson during his absence, was a good deal away from headquarters with me between August and November. He, therefore, had not time to take up and deal with the Blue Book for 1893 as he had fully intended, and whilst I have no doubt that from his great ability and quick grasp of points and circum-

stances he would no doubt have produced a very able report, yet he could not have brought to bear upon it the experience of 1893 which the Colonial Secretary possessed, because during hewhole of that year Mr. Hodgson was resident in the Colony, and therefore would be more at home with the numerous subjects to be dealt with in the report than an Acting Officer who was only in the Colony for a little over eight months. But, my Lord, although the report has been delayed, I trust your Lordship will kindly make allowance for this in view of the circumstances out of which the delay arose.

I have, &c.
W. BRANDFORD GRIFFITH,
Governor.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1893.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Revenue.

During the year 1893 taxation, and duties remained as they were in 1892, and the growth in the prosperity of the Colony is shown by the Revenue having reached a total of 201,782*l.* 17*s.* 2*d.*, which is the largest sum collected in any one year in the history of the Gold Coast. In 1892 the Revenue amounted to 183,074*l.* 11*s.* 1*d.*, so that for the year under review the increase in the revenue was at the rate of 10 per cent.

The items of revenue may be properly classified and compared with those of 1892 as shown in the following table :—

Items of Revenue.	1892.	1893.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Wines, Spirits, Tobacco, Guns, &c., (specific)	133,448 1 10	144,907 1 9
General Merchandize (ad valorem) -	28,322 15 0	32,812 7 9
Liquor Licenses - - - -	5,597 10 0	5,482 10 0
Stamps, (Postal, Telegraph and Revenue)	6,686 9 5	7,352 1 8
Other Items - - - -	*9,019 14 10	†11,228 16 0
Total Revenue - -	£183,074 11 1	201,782 17 2

* Includes Fines, Forfeitures, and Fees of Court; and 4,095*l.* 18*s.* 11*d.* interest on investments.

† Includes Fines, Forfeitures, and Fees of Courts; and 4,972*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.* interest on investments.

Although complaints have been made to the Government from time to time that the 10 per cent. ad valorem duty on general merchandize is too high, the trade in this description of goods increased from 283,227*l.* 10*s.* 0*d.* in 1892 to 328,123*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*, in 1893, or no less than 15·85 per cent. The only valid argument against the duty in a country like the Gold Coast, where direct taxation in the Interior towns is impracticable and where the native can only be got at for taxing purposes by a duty on such articles as experience shows he is inclined to purchase, is that it causes trade to be either stationary or retrogressive. This argument does not hold good as regards the Gold Coast at present, and as the country becomes more and more exploited there will be a less tendency to its existence. The merchants, it is true, feel the incidence of the tax in the first instance because it is from them that the Government collects it; but they are not slow to throw the burden off their shoulders, and, when trade is brisk, the money paid to the Government soon comes back to them; the burden is lost in being disseminated throughout the population in infinitesimal proportions. I showed in my report for 1892 that taxation in the Gold Coast Colony amounted only to 2*s.* 5*d.* a head. It amounted in 1893 to 2*s.* 8*d.* a head, and no one can say that this is any burden at all on the people of the Protectorate, for whom the Government provides security for life and property, education for those who choose to take it, and as many of the advantages of civilization as possible.

The specific duties, which are levied on luxuries (wine, spirits, tobacco, &c.) amounted to no less a sum than 144,907*l.* 1*s.* 9*d.*, being an increase of 8·58 per cent. over the amount collected in 1892. This again is an indication of the increasing prosperity of the inhabitants of the Colony.

Expenditure.

The expenditure, although showing an increase of 20,830*l.* 14*s.* 9*d.*, being 178,934*l.* 11*s.* 5*d.* in 1893 as against 158,103*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.* in 1892, was less than the revenue of the year by as much as 22,848*l.* 5*s.* 9*d.* The principal cause of the increase in expenditure was the commencement, and in some cases completion, of public works of utility.

Public Debt.

At present there is none, but it is not improbable that the time is approaching for adding the Gold Coast to the list of British Colonies borrowing money in the English market, inasmuch as such works as a harbour, the construction of railways into the interior, and the clearance of waterways, are pressing forward for attention, and must be taken up if the Gold Coast is to range itself with the Colonies which command the attention of capitalists.

Local Revenue.

The application of the municipal system of government to Accra, the capital town of the Colony, and to the larger and more important of the Coast Towns cannot much longer be deferred. It is desirable that the people should be taught, and made to understand, their obligations in the general system of government, and there can be no better way of doing this than in showing them how, with a very moderate direct taxation, they can obtain the increased comfort which proper sanitation, good streets, a satisfactory water supply, and so forth, will bestow upon them. Hitherto the fact that there is so small a number of educated people in each town has blocked the introduction of a system of local government, but with the spread of education this obstacle is being rapidly removed.

MILITARY AND POLICE FORCES.

The total cost of the Hausa Military Force was 37,204*l.* 19*s.* 9*d.*, being an increase on the previous year of 1,654*l.* 3*s.* 3*d.* which is almost wholly accounted for by the purchase of additional machine guns and ammunition.

Authority was obtained for increasing the Volunteer Force from 100 to 300 men by raising one additional company at Accra and two companies at Cape Coast. The Volunteer movement has proved most popular among the educated Natives and no difficulty whatever was experienced in obtaining the requisite number of recruits, as many as 120 having been enrolled in Cape Coast in the course of a few days. Apart from the fact that the Natives who join the Volunteer Force are taught habits of punctuality, obedience, and discipline which cannot fail to be of use to them in civil life, besides the usual military duties which fit them to take their place as part of the defensive force of the Colony, the Volunteer movement is a means of bringing together men of different tribes and various views, and giving them a common standpoint from which to sink their differences and do some work for the good of their country.

A scheme for improving the efficiency of the Police Force, which has for some time been far from satisfactory, has been drawn up and the introduction of the scheme will, it is hoped, result in the Force becoming more efficient and reliable.

Towards the end of September it became apparent that King Prempeh (Kwaku Dua III) of Ashanti, whose army had defeated the Nkoranzas, a tribe which had recently revolted from the Ashanti confederation, meditated a descent upon Attabubu, a country which the Government had taken into the Protectorate by a treaty dated the 25th November 1890. The Attabubus are one of the Brong tribes living to the north-east of the country of Ashanti. These tribes until the Ashanti War of 1873–74 were subservient to Ashanti, and King Prempeh having succesfully overthrown in turn all those tribes of the confederation which had favoured the

claims of his rival, Prince Atcheriboanda, namely, the Kokofus, Mampons, Nsutas, Dadiassis and Nkwantas, conceived the idea of re-asserting the power of Ashanti over the Brong tribes and of regaining the allegiance of the King of Attabubu, against whose treaty with this Government he had always protested.

The Kumasi army was composed of contingents from Mampon, Nsuta (the people of those two Ashanti tribes had returned to their respective countries and had given in their allegiance to King Prempeh) Ofinsu, Adjisu, Abiasim, the small tributary countries of Kumawu, Agogo, Kwamen, and Asokori, as well as a contingent from the King of Juabin under Ampetsi, a son of King Asafu Ajei, who died in exile at Lagos. The whole force was placed under the Kumasi General, Amankwatia Kwamin, whose intentions were expressed in the following oath which he swore before the King at a great council held at Kumasi for the purpose of deciding upon the final arrangements :—

"I will proceed to Nkoranza or wherever the King of Nkoranza may be and bring him to you. I will visit Brumasi; I will take my breast plates ('osen') from the Kings of Prang, Yeji, and Gwan. I will encamp at Attabubu, where the shady trees will give shelter to my troops, and on my return I will bring Attabubu, Nkoranza, and all the Brong nation with me to you as part of your Kingdom by conquest."

Brumasi, Prang, Yeji, Gwan and Attabubu are, it may be stated, the principal Brong tribes, and the King of Nkoranza with a large number of his people had upon his defeat taken refuge with those tribes.

To prevent the Ashanti Army overrunning Attabubu, whose King had sent urgent messages to the Government for succour, a strong force of Hausas, under the command of the Inspector-General of Constabulary, Colonel Sir Francis Scott, was despatched from Accra, the advance guard starting on the 2nd October. On the arrival of the Hausas in Attabubu, the King of Ashanti, to whom at the same time a letter of warning had been addressed, withdrew his army to Kumasi, fearing that he might have to act on the defensive. The year closed with the Hausa Force still in Attabubu, the main body at the town of that name, and detachments in the frontier towns of Amantin and Bompata, both on roads leading to Kumasi.

Public Works.

The sum spent under this head amounted to 30,047*l.* 1*s.* 1*d.*, as against 16,608*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.* in 1892. Among the public works undertaken during the year were the erection of market sheds in the Town of Accra and the construction of a large underground fresh-water tank in connection with them, the survey by Captain Lang, R. E., of a route for the proposed railway from the Coast to the Interior, the survey of the watershed of the river Humo in connection with the question of obtaining a water-supply for the towns of Accra and Christiansborg, the construction of a fresh-water

tank at Saltpond sufficiently large to supply the wants of the people of that town, the improvement of the landing places at Accra and Cape Coast, the erection of gunpowder magazines at Winneba and Kwitta, and of a head treasury at Accra, the commencement of the Queen's warehouse at Accra, and lastly the commencement of the construction of a proper road from Cape Coast to Denkera and so on to Sefwhi.

LEGISLATION.

Ten Ordinances were passed, the principal of which were No. 7, "An Ordinance to enable the Governor to issue Commissions of enquiry with special powers;" and No. 8 "An Ordinance "to regulate the relations between employers and employed, "and to control the employment of persons in the Colony for "service out of the Colony."

The latter Ordinance is the first step towards placing the emigration of Natives from the Gold Coast upon a more defined and satisfactory footing than it had been previously.

CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

Under this head may be mentioned the sanction to proposals to augment the strength of the roads department which, when carried out, will enable the Government to commence the important work of constructing and maintaining throughout the Colony roads which will be passable for foot traffic throughout the year. Further, the re-arrangement of the Native staff of each department into classes with, in most cases, substantial increases of salary, and the provision of better means of promotion for deserving officers.

SECURITY.

The Public Officers' Guarantee Fund was started on the 1st January for the purpose (as stated in the report on the Colony for 1892) of putting an end to the unsatisfactory arrangement under which the Native officers of the Government had to find two approved sureties in the Colony, unsatisfactory because it placed the officers under obligations to their sureties. There was no defalcation during the year, and the Fund was not called upon to pay away any of its moneys during the first year of its existence.

PENSIONS.

The Pension list during the three years has remained more or less stationary, as the following figures show:—

		£	s.	d.
1888	22 pensioners,	1,734	7	7
1889	28 „	2,420	7	2
1890	30 „	2,471	8	8
1891	36 „	3,159	13	3
1892	35 „	3,130	10	0
1893	36 „	3,148	4	2

Of the 36 pensioners, 1 has drawn his pension for 23 years, 4 for periods varying between 11 and 15 years, 12 between 5 and 10 years, and the remaining 19 for less than 5 years.

POPULATION.

According to the Census taken in 1891, the population of the Gold Coast is given at 1,473,882. The number of professing Christians has been variously estimated but may be taken at a total 37,500, of whom about two-thirds are Wesleyans. During the year 1893 there were 135 marriage licenses issued, being an increase of 25 over the previous year and an increase of 63 per cent. in a period of five years, as shown by the following figures :—

1889	83
1890	93
1891	94
1892	110
1893	135

EDUCATION.

The educational system of the Colony is based upon an Ordinance passed on the 28th September 1887 for the promotion and assistance of education in the Gold Coast Colony and upon rules framed under that Ordinance by a Board of Education and approved on the 4th November 1887.

The business of the Board of Education, which consists of the principal Government officials and representatives of the various missionary bodies engaged in educational work, is to deal with the suggestions of the Director of Education, to receive, consider and confirm his reports, to approve the award of grants made by him, and to decide from time to time the conditions under which the Education Ordinance of the Colony shall be administered.

The schools of the Colony are, nearly without exception, what may be styled "elementary schools," although here and there one or two aspire to the higher title of "grammar" or "boarding" schools; but, even in these, elementary education forms the basis of the instruction given. The schools, of which during the year 1893 there were 67 in existence, divide themselves according to denomination and fall under one of four divisions, viz. :—

	No.
Government Schools	6
Basel Mission School	28
Wesleyan Schools	25
Roman Catholic Schools	8

All these schools are either entirely supported by, or assisted from, Government funds. There are at present no real higher-grade or secondary schools, and no provision yet exists for the training of teachers. These important branches of education are now being considered by the Director of Education and it is hoped that a few years will see, under properly certificated teachers, a complete gradation of schools, from the elementary to the higher grade, where promising pupils may be trained for further European education in the universities.

Although in 1893 only 67 schools were inspected and reported upon, that number by no means represents the total number of schools in the Colony. Each mission engaged in the cause of education, supports, entirely from its own funds, a large number of small schools, situated in the outlying parts of the Colony. These are generally known as "bush" schools; they contain but few children, but, as soon as the minimum number in attendance as fixed by the Board of Education is secured in them, they are brought under the notice of the Board, and as a rule placed upon the list of those in receipt of the Government grants. The Bremen Mission has also a few schools in the Kwitta District which do not, however, receive support from Government funds.

Very much yet remains to be done both with regard to the provision of suitable accommodation for new scholars, and to awaken the mind of the ordinary native to the benefits to be derived from education. The population of the Colony and protected territories is estimated to be about 1½ millions, and allowing, as in England, that one-sixth or about 16 per cent. of the total population, consists of children of school age, there are no less than 250,000 children to be brought within the education field. In such countries as the Gold Coast, the proportion of children to adults is greater than in temperate climates, but, reckoning on the same basis, a glance at the following statistical table will show what has been done and what yet remains to be done in the cause of education. The total number of children under instruction in the aided schools of the Colony during the last five years has been as follows:—

1889	5,038
1890	5,356
1891	6,688
1892	7,572
1893	7,350

but when the small "bush" schools are also taken into account the number of the children under instruction in all schools slightly exceeds 10,000 so that, at present, only 7 per 1,000 of the population, instead of 160 per 1,000 are under instruction. No further words are needed to show what remains to be done.

The following statistical table shows the distribution of the children in the assisted schools, under their various denominations, for the past five years:—

Year.	Government Schools.			Wesleyan Schools.			Basel Mission Schools.			Roman Catholic Schools.			Bremen Mission.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
1889 . . .	784	215	999	1,620	178	1,798	1,155	531	1,686	364	91	455	92	8	100
1890 . . .	683	201	884	1,769	203	1,972	1,282	615	1,897	432	86	518	68	17	85
1891 . . .	818	231	1,049	2,019	223	2,242	1,424	780	2,204	807	222	1,029	128	26	154
1892 . . .	880	218	1,098	2,576	372	2,948	1,412	780	2,192	1,008	181	1,189	—	—	145
1893 . . .	771	203	974	2,214	289	2,503	1,733	960	2,693	819	161	980	No return.		

All the ordinary elementary subjects are taught in the schools, and in many cases English is the only language employed, though in some cases English and the vernacular are taught side by side, and in a very few instances instruction is given in the vernacular only.

In addition to the elementary and class subjects thus taught, the scholars in the more advanced schools receive instruction in book-keeping, shorthand, singing by note, and drill, and in the case of girls, needlework and household work in all its branches. The technical part of instruction is not neglected, for in connection with some of the leading schools there are classes for tuition in wood-carving, carpentry, smith-work, and practical husbandry.

An annual competitive exhibition is held in Accra, at which prizes are awarded by the Committee for the best specimens of school work in all its branches.

Infant schools are much needed in the Colony, where the large numbers of young children who flock to the schools could receive instruction suitable to their age and be trained upon the kindergarten system for entrance into the senior schools. Kindergarten teaching is gradually spreading, but suffers from the want of trained teachers.

In 1891, penny banks were established by the Government, and since that time have steadily increased, both in the number of depositors and in the amounts deposited. The total number of depositors and the amount standing in their names at December 31st 1893 is as follows:—

School Savings Bank.

School.	Total No. of Depositors on 31st December 1892.	Total sum to credit of Depositors.
		£ s. d.
Accra:		
Government	196	26 16 4½
Wesleyan	85	5 15 11
Basel	34	1 2 1
Cape Coast:		
Government	104	6 0 4
Wesleyan	63	0 14 0
Elmina:		
Roman Catholic	49	1 5 5
Saltpond:		
Wesleyan	52	1 7 9
Winneba:		
Wesleyan	117	1 11 9
	700	44 13 7½

The following table shows the proportion of grants earned by the various educational bodies for the past five years :—

Mission.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Wesleyan - -	304 13 6	580 14 0	691 0 0	1,060 6 0	1182 5 6
Basel - - -	490 11 0	627 8 6	618 9 0	671 18 6	805 18 6
Roman Catholic -	58 19 6	148 6 0	334 12 0	435 2 0	473 16 0
Bremen - -	62 5 0	No grants awarded.			
£	916 9 0	1,356 8 6	1,644 1 0	2,167 6 6	2462 0 0

Increased educational activity is apparent on all sides in the efforts of the various missions to increase the number, and to improve the efficiency, of the schools under their control. New schools are being established in some of the wilder parts of the Colony, the existing "bush" schools are growing in size and gradually being added to the list of Government assisted schools, plans for the establishment of secondary and technical schools are being discussed, and a scholarship scheme, drafted by his Excellency the Governor, is under consideration.

Trade.

Imports and Exports.

The total value of the Gold Coast trade amounted in 1893 to 1,440,460*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* of which 718,353*l.* 4*s.* 3*d.* represented the value of the imports and 722,106*l.* 19*s.* 1*d.* that of the exports. A comparison of these figures with those of 1892 and previous years indicates a very substantial increase in the volume of trade.

The following tables show the distribution of trade during the past five years :—

Imports.

Year.	From the United Kingdom.	From British Colonies.	From Foreign Countries.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1889 - -	340,111 2 1	8,828 12 11	91,928 14 3	440,868 9 3
1890 - -	422,739 14 6	5,861 0 4	133,502 1 6	562,102 16 4
1891 - -	483,392 18 6	5,085 6 10	177,302 17 11	665,781 3 9
1892 - -	407,037 16 10	9,924 13 11	180,132 1 8	597,094 12 5
1893 - -	524,036 16 1	8,719 5 10	185,597 2 4	718,353 4 3

Exports.

Year.	To United Kingdom.	To British Colonies.	To Foreign Countries.	Totals.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1889 - -	363,323 5 4	1,953 4 8	78,549 12 2	415,926 2 2
1890 - -	494,237 1 11	643 19 2	106,467 8 5	601,348 9 6
1891 - -	545,492 16 6	2,035 5 0	136,776 18 2	684,304 19 8
1892 - -	471,218 19 10	2,053 13 9	191,791 9 8	665,064 3 3
1893 - -	530,360 1 5	27,016 16 7	164,790 1 1	722,106 19 1

The value of the principal articles of import and export is shown in the following tables, in which also a comparison with 1892 is given :—

Imports.

Articles.	1892.	1893.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Ale and porter - -	2,265 13 5	2,414 0 10	148 7 5	—
Ammunition - - -	2,195 11 0	1,693 5 10	—	502 5 2
Beads - - - -	10,184 18 1	8,033 19 5	—	2,150 18 8
Bags and sacks - -	4,539 7 6	3,874 16 7	—	664 10 11
Beef and pork - -	1,670 14 5	1,192 5 1	—	478 9 4
Blue, Indigo - - -	1,066 14 4	1,617 6 4	550 12 0	—
Boats and canoes - -	3,196 19 0	2,655 17 6	—	541 1 6
Books (printed) - -	1,797 7 0	2,088 0 10	290 13 10	—
Brandy - - - -	377 19 10	660 4 2	282 4 4	—
Brass and copperware -	6,984 14 0	7,489 4 0	504 10 0	—
Bread and biscuits - -	6,048 5 10	6,089 9 8	41 3 10	—
Building materials - -	8,244 14 1	6,674 18 10	—	1,569 15 3
Cordage and twine - -	5,846 10 4	6,359 1 4	512 11 0	—
Cotton goods - - -	181,787 3 3	213,908 2 0	32,120 18 9	—
Coopers' stores - -	16,903 19 7	14,427 8 9	—	2,476 10 10
Drugs and medicines - -	3,147 10 4	2,848 1 2	—	299 9 2
Earthenware - - -	4,117 10 9	3,978 18 11	—	138 11 10
Flour - - - -	6,489 3 0	7,956 0 10	1,466 17 10	—
Furniture - - -	1,061 7 3	853 8 11	—	207 18 4
Gin and Geneva - -	18,542 11 0	22,608 1 1	4,065 10 1	—
Gunpowder - - -	6,479 14 4	6,971 9 10	491 15 6	—
Guns and pistols - -	8,533 0 0	9,274 2 6	741 2 6	—
Glassware - - -	1,952 17 8	2,044 12 8	91 15 0	—
Hardware and cutlery -	12,540 0 0	12,440 12 4	—	99 7 8

Imports—continued.

Articles.	1892.	1893.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Instruments, musical and scientific.	1,803 3 6	2,479 9 2	676 5 8	—
Ironware	785 0 3	1,066 17 7	281 17 4	—
Lead (all kinds)	2,369 18 0	2,517 18 1	158 0 1	—
Machinery, mining and Agricultural.	5,531 5 0	3,233 7 0	—	2,867 9 9
Machinery (for other purposes).	569 11 9			
Matches	964 19 3	1,817 14 10	852 15 7	—
Mineral waters	2,643 16 9	3,460 7 10	816 11 1	—
Oils (illuminating)	1,374 9 5	3,824 4 4	2,449 14 11	—
Paints and oils	1,962 2 11	4,131 6 6	2,169 3 7	—
Provisions	12,701 8 6	14,367 15 1	1,666 6 7	—
Rice	11,176 1 5	10,766 10 7	—	409 10 10
Rum	75,935 19 6	76,212 6 4	276 6 10	—
Salt	2,702 2 8	2,790 0 10	87 18 2	—
Silk goods	19,349 17 1	26,422 17 8	7,073 0 7	—
Soaps, Perfumery, &c.	10,724 8 7	16,468 10 5	5,744 1 10	—
Specie	48,025 7 11	91,876 5 0	43,850 17 1	—
Stationery	3,176 18 7	22,075 5 8	18,898 7 1	—
Steam launches	4,062 11 6	750 16 5	—	3,311 15 1
Sugar	5,077 13 0	6,078 0 3	1,000 7 3	—
Tools	2,398 13 0	2,281 15 2	—	116 7 1
Tobacco	17,173 19 7	20,259 8 1	3,085 8 6	—
Umbrellas	2,050 17 1	2,824 2 11	773 5 10	—
Wearing apparel	9,637 6 4	10,792 2 6	1,154 16 2	—
Whiskey	1,990 11 11	2,655 17 9	665 5 10	—
Wines and liqueurs	6,073 10 9	6,509 15 9	436 5 0	—
Woollen goods	4,679 10 8	5,940 1 0	1,260 10 4	—
Miscellaneous	26,189 1 6	28,596 18 1	2,407 16 7	—
Total Imports	597,094 12 5	718,353 4 3	137,093 4 0	15,834 12 2
Total Imports	597,094 12 5	718,353 4 3	121,258 11 10	—
Less Specie	48,025 7 11	91,876 5 0	43,850 17 1	—
Total £	549,069 4 6	626,476 19 3	77,407 14 9	—

NOTE.—In 1892 through an error on the part of the Officer who compiled the return the figures were taken from the total for Consumption, instead of those for Importation. This error has now been rectified in the present table, and makes a difference of 275*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* in the total.

Exports.

Article.	Year. 1892.	Year. 1893.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Camwood	69 2 0	787 3 5	718 1 5	—
Cocoanuts	472 15 11	415 3 11	—	57 12 0
Coffee	275 4 8	630 13 3	355 8 7	—
Copra	1,003 13 6	831 5 0	—	172 8 6
Cotton	441 4 1	734 18 7	293 14 6	—
Gold Dust	98,805 17 3	79,099 8 6	—	18,706 8 9
Guinea Grains	457 14 0	661 2 3	203 8 3	—
Gum Copal	489 6 8	294 7 1	—	194 19 7
Hides and Skins	34,915 13 0	46,918 13 0	12,003 0 0	—
Ivory	5,417 10 0	2,273 11 4	—	3,143 18 8
Kola Nuts	1,328 7 3	25,716 5 7	24,387 18 4	—
Palm Nuts	103,294 15 3	80,721 8 11	—	22,573 6 4
Palm Oil	178,953 15 0	183,909 14 10	4,955 19 10	—
Rubber	166,659 16 8	218,162 8 3	51,502 11 7	—
Specie	29,522 16 10	23,097 8 0	—	6,425 8 10
Timber	36,393 13 4	50,428 9 4	13,034 16 0	—
Unclassified	6,562 17 10	7,424 17 10	862 0 0	—
Totals £	665,064 3 3	722,106 19 1	108,316 18 6	51,274 2 8
	—	665,064 3 3	51,274 2 8	—
Net Increase	—	57,042 15 10	57,042 15 10	—

The total value of imports paying duty and admitted free since the imposition of the present duties is shown as follows :—

Year.	Paying Duty.	Admitted free.	Totals.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1890	347,480 17 10	214,621 18 6	562,102 16 4
1891	464,188 1 7	201,593 1 5	665,781 3 0
1892	422,026 8 1	175,068 4 4	597,094 12 5
1893	475,346 15 8	243,006 8 7	718,353 4 3

Gold Coast. 1893.

The import of rum and alcoholic liquors has increased by as much as 15½ per cent., as shown by the following comparative statement:—

	1892.	1893.	Increase.
	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.
Rum - - -	1,029,114	1,147,676	118,562
Gin and Geneva - -	220,322	294,687	74,365
Whiskey - - -	5,054	7,391	2,337
Brandy - - -	485	830	345
Wines - - -	20,492	24,098	3,606
Ale and Porter - -	19,665	21,949	2,284
Totals - -	1,295,132	1,496,631	201,449

In my report on the Gold Coast for 1892 I pointed out that the consumption of alcoholic liquors by the natives of this part of West Africa was far less than it is in the United Kingdom, and that there is insufficient ground for the contention, so often put forward, that the native is being ruined body and soul by what is stigmatized as the nefarious liquor traffic.

The native knows very well how to take care of himself, and a consumption of less than a gallon of spirits per annum per head of the population, which is what the statistics show, cannot well be considered to be excessive. Assuming that only half the population gets sight and taste of imported alcohol, 1¾ gallons per head per annum would give an infinitesimal daily allowance to each person. I repeat what I have said before, that drunkenness in the Gold Coast is comparatively uncommon and that East of the Volta, where, on account of the low duties, rum can be purchased for threepence a bottle, and where, therefore, if the importation of spirits into the midst of the natives has the demoralizing influence so often contended for it, the effect would at once be visible; there is absolutely no increase of drunkenness apparent.

Shipping.

The following tables show:—

(A.) The number of steamers and sailing ships which have entered and cleared during the last five years.

(B.) The countries from which they have entered, and

(C.) the countries for which they have cleared.

A.

Year.	Steamers entered.		Steamers cleared.		Sailing vessels entered.		Sailing vessels cleared.		Totals.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
1889 - -	235	279,684	234	283,331	17	3,546	11	2,485	497	569,046
1890 - -	261	312,430	271	320,887	19	5,822	14	3,876	565	643,015
1891 - -	299	379,377	300	374,054	34	12,224	31	11,514	664	777,169
1892 - -	311	409,726	306	395,256	35	11,851	31	10,077	683	826,910
1893 - -	319	405,354	318	406,710	32	10,708	25	7,994	694	830,766

B.

Entered from	1889.		1890.		1891.		1892.		1893.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
United Kingdom.	84	96,550	89	107,594	91	125,684	79	116,262	80	114,777
Germany -	25	29,359	33	36,397	35	38,195	47	53,377	51	57,656
France - -	2	1,742	4	3,469	5	3,352	7	7,094	9	7,299
United States	3	1,041	5	2,180	10	3,924	8	3,379	7	2,686
African Ports	138	154,538	148	168,228	184	216,287	193	230,388	196	227,128
Italy - -	—	—	—	—	5	2,254	3	1,536	3	1,505
Belgium -	—	—	1	384	1	915	8	9,441	4	4,411
Portugal -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Portuguese Colonies.	—	—	—	—	1	900	—	—	1	600
Spain - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	190	—	—
Cape of Good Hope.	—	—	—	—	1	90	—	—	—	—
Total -	252	283,230	280	318,252	333	391,601	346	421,577	351	416,062

C.

Cleared for	1889.		1890.		1891.		1892.		1893.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
United Kingdom.	79	93,935	99	118,619	105	135,537	78	108,844	74	103,840
Germany -	18	22,587	27	32,417	30	33,182	44	48,512	51	60,000
France - -	2	1,909	9	8,552	2	1,161	3	3,501	6	5,439
United States	2	1,008	2	778	5	2,007	2	584	—	—
African Ports	144	166,377	148	164,397	187	211,865	197	234,134	200	233,877
Belgium -	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	7,909	10	9,650
Portugal -	—	—	—	—	1	746	1	228	1	363

Cleared for	1889.		1890.		1891.		1892.		1893.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Spain - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	529	—	—
Holland -	—	—	—	—	1	1,070	—	—	1	842
West Indies-	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1,088	3	1,193
Total -	245	285,816	285	324,763	331	385,568	337	405,333	343	414,704

On the 31st December 1893 there were no less than 20 ports of entry and 24 sufferance wharves for the loading and unloading of vessels, as well as nine sufferance wharves for the shipment only of exports.

AGRICULTURE.

Under this head there is little to add to what was said in the report for the year 1892 (Colonial Reports, No. 88, Gold Coast). The only important advance which has been made in the cultivation of plants of economic value has been with respect to coffee. Several additional coffee plantations of small size have been started by the natives in the country of Akwapim, and the larger plantations in the neighbourhood of Cape Coast, more especially that owned by the Glasgow firm of Messrs. Miller Brothers and Company, are beginning to produce the coffee berry in paying quantities. It will be seen on referring to the table of exports, that the export of coffee has increased from 12,899 lbs. in 1892 to 21,437 lbs. in 1893.

It is satisfactory to note that the export of kola-nuts has increased, the value in 1892 being 1,328*l.* 7*s.* 3*d.*, whereas it was 25,716*l.* 5*s.* 7*d.* in 1893. I stated in my report for 1892 that more would be heard of kola-nuts as an article of export, and there is every reason to suppose that attention is now being given to this valuable commercial product, which is to be found in large quantities in the hinterland of the Gold Coast.

The trade in rubber was very good, as the following comparison with the trade in 1892 shows:—

	Weight.	Value.
	lbs.	£ *s.* *d.*
1892 - - - - -	2,663,020	166,659 16 8
1893 - - - - -	3,395,990	218,162 8 3

A good deal of general work has been done in the Government botanical station during the year and considerable attention has been paid to the plantations of coffee and cocoa, in the cultivation of both of which, but more especially the former, the natives appear

to have become interested. Along the road leading from the botanical station through the country of Akwapim to the interior are large numbers of small clearings in which coffee plants, chiefly obtained by purchase from the botanical station, are to be seen in a most flourishing condition. The Liberian coffee plant appears to thrive best, but there are large quantities also of the Arabian coffee-plant, the berry of which, however, is small and apparently deteriorated. It will probably be necessary for the Government at no distant date, if the coffee industry is to be fostered into a trade, to instruct these native cultivators in the proper way of preparing the berry for export. At present the most primitive method is employed. The berries are scraped by hand with a round stone worked in the hollow of a larger stone, and after this process they are washed and dried in the sun. It is obvious that a large crop could not so be dealt with and that the employment of machinery in the near future is imperative. The initiative will have to be taken by the Government, because of the general ignorance on the part of the natives of all machinery, even of the simplest character, and because no single native cultivator possesses sufficient capital, enterprise, or experience to take the matter in hand.

In February many parts of the Colony were visited by large swarms of locusts. At Accra they took about three hours in passing over the town, and at the botanical station some damage was done by them to the plantains. The natives of Accra flocked into the streets and loudly called upon their fetishes for protection, thinking that they were being visited by a supernatural occurrence of fearful magnitude. In the Kwitta district much damage was done to the crops, but, fortunately, in no case do the locusts seem to have regarded the Gold Coast as their proper habitat.

MANUFACTURES, MINES, &C.

The only manufactures carried on by the natives are manufactures which the necessities of life have driven them to undertake. The most important is the manufacture of earthenware pots of various sizes, ranging from a capacity of 4 to 12 gallons, for the purpose of carrying and storing water for drinking and household purposes. These pots are made principally in the country of Shai, which lies behind the trade port of Pram Pram, where the clay is admirably adapted for the purpose. The pots, which in shape are exactly similar to the English glass bowl used by dealers in gold fish, are moulded by hand and shaped by eye. They are baked, in the first instance, and then are subjected to a slow wood fire for three days when, if the latter and important process has been properly carried out, the pots come out black and hard. Before the pots have cooled, each is polished by hand. For this purpose the covering of the palm-kernel is used. This thready covering is heated over

the fire in which the pots have been baked, and is then taken in the palm of the hand and rubbed over the outside of the pots. It acts as a varnish and imparts to the pots a brilliancy which may best be compared to a well-polished fire-grate. The pots are then packed longitudinally, in crates made specially for the purpose and adapted to conveyance as a head load, and are carried to the markets, where there is always a ready sale for them. The market price for these pots ranges from 1*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.* 6*d.* apiece, according to size.

The drying of fish is also a staple industry of the country. All the large-sized sea fish caught by the coast fishermen are split open and cleaned. They are then closed and kept in salt water for three days until they begin to get putrid—which condition affords the flavour dear to the native—when they are again opened and covered with salt to prevent the presence of flies and other insects. They are then sun-dried and become ready for food.

The herring, which is a common sea fish on the West Coast of Africa, is treated differently. It is not subjected to the cleaning process, as in the case of the bigger fish, but is quickly roasted in clay-made ovens, and then smoked over an open fire, which is arranged in a shallow pit about one foot in depth. Fish are also salted into barrels.

These specially prepared fish are carried to the markets throughout the country, and are a recognised article of native diet. Their presence is soon made apparent, especially in the case of the sun-dried fish, by the putrid smell which arises from them and which, as I have said, is one of the principal attractions to the unsophisticated native.

Baskets and crates adapted for carrying goods on the head are extensively made in every part of the Colony, and on the Coast all the fishermen make their own nets, often from yarn which has been manufactured out of native-grown fibre and cotton.

In many of the villages of Akwapim and Krobo there are blacksmiths' forges, where rough iron-work is turned out, such as door-hinges, door-handles, bolts, window fasteners, and so forth. These forges are the outcome of the excellent instruction imparted by the Basel Missionary Society, which has always insisted in giving the natives a knowledge of some handicraft or industry "pari passu" with the tenets of the Christian faith.

There are no manufactures of export value.

Mining and working for gold is extensively carried on, especially in the countries of Wassaw and Akim. In my report on the Blue Book for 1892, I explained the primitive methods adopted by the natives and I referred also to the operations of the English mining companies in Wassaw. A company is also in course of formation for the purpose of working a concession obtained in the country of Sefwhi.

The following table shows the exports of gold-dust and nuggets from the Colony during the last five years :—

Year.	Weight.	Value.
	Ozs.	£ s. d.
1889	28,667	103,200 10 0
1890	25,460	91,657 0 0
1891	24,476	88,112 0 0
1892	27,446	98,805 17 0
1893	21,972	79,099 4 0
Totals	128,021	£460,874 11 0

GAOLS AND PRISONERS.

Accordingly to the returns, there were 1,589 persons received into the 13 gaols and lock-ups of the Colony, being an increase of 55 over the number in 1892. The following table shows the figures during the last five years :—

Year.	Males.	Females.	Juveniles.	Totals.
1889	2,093	148	14	2,255
1890	1,647	76	9	1,732
1891	1,677	85	8	1,766
1892	1,475	48	11	1,534
1893	1,513	61	15	1,589

The 1,589 persons committed to prison are classified as follows :—

For debt	134
For safe custody till trial, or for want of security	294
For purposes of penal imprisonment	1,161

Of the 1,161 committed for penal imprisonment, 1,020 were committed for three months or less, and, of the remainder, 70 were old offenders.

The total cost of the prisons establishment has, during each of the past five years, been as follows :—

1889	4,803 19 9
1890	4,117 8 9
1891	4,230 10 3
1892	5.387 1 8
1893	5,511 8 3

The mark system which was introduced in September 1891 has been found to work excellently. Under this system every convict sentenced to penal servitude or imprisonment for two years or upwards can earn a remission of one-fourth of his sentence by continuous good conduct, and by hard and steady labour. Each convict has his time of detention represented by a certain number of marks which he can earn as follows:—

For a full day's hard and steady labour	-	8 marks
For a less degree of industry -	-	7 „
For a fair but moderate day's work -	-	6 „

these being, of course, combined with good conduct.

The system is carefully explained to each convict upon his entry into prison, and it provides a satisfactory means of punishing convicts by enabling the head of the prisons department to fine a convict a certain number of his marks, and to deprive him, by reason of misconduct, of the whole or portion of any remission of sentence he may have earned.

Gangs of prisoners are employed outside the prisons in sanitary work, at Accra in the Government quarry, in road-cleaning, hauling and breaking stones, and convicts are also taught, inside the two principal prisons, boot-making, carpentering, tailoring, and mat and basket-making.

Besides the 13 Government prisons and lock-ups there were 63 registered native prisons each in charge of the chief of the town in which it situated.

Criminal Statistics.

During the year 6,418, offences were reported to the police and of these 6,395 are stated to have been brought before the District Commissioners. The statistics given in the Blue Book show the nature of the offences committed and the number of persons convicted and acquitted.

Hospitals.

The Hospital at Kwitta had to be closed in consequence of the building rented for the purpose by the Government having been seriously damaged by unusually high tides. No other suitable building could be obtained.

The accommodation in the Accra hospital was increased from 40 to 46 beds, and that in the Elmina hospital from 30 to 32 beds. A small hospital with four beds was opened at Axim.

There are free dispensaries attached to each hospital, and free dispensaries at the following places, where also a medical officer is stationed:—

Ada; Akuse; Chama; Kwitta; Saltpond; Winneba.

At these dispensaries large numbers of natives are annually treated gratuitously.

During the last five years the following in-patients have been treated in the hospitals :—

Year.	Patients Discharged.				Totals.
	Cured.	Relieved.	Not improved.	Deaths.	
1889 - - -	686	246	32	88	1,052
1890 - - -	769	179	40	47	1,035
1891 - - -	572	212	41	48	873
1892 - - -	840	272	47	71	1,230
1893 - - -	836	294	36	94	1,260

PUBLIC LUNATIC ASYLUM.

A lunatic asylum was established in Accra in 1887, and the following male and female lunatics have been treated in it :—

Year.	Admitted.		Discharged.						Deaths.		Remaining 31st December.	
			Cured.		Relieved.		Not improved.					
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1887 - -	14	5	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	11	5
1888 - -	17	3	3	—	—	—	1	—	8	3	16	5
1889 - -	10	3	5	2	—	—	—	—	4	1	17	5
1890 - -	12	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	6	1	20	4
1891 - -	10	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	24	6
1892 - -	21	2	7	—	—	—	1	—	6	1	31	7
1893 - -	8	4	—	—	5	2	—	—	2	—	32	9

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

The rainfall at Accra during the last five years has been as follows:—

1889 - - - - - -	25·96 inches.
1890 - - - - - -	29·535 inches.
1891 - - - - - -	28·97 inches.
1892 - - - - - -	29·27 inches.
1893 - - - - - -	28·73 inches.

At the botanical station on the hills at Aburi the rainfall in 1892 was 43·25 inches and in 1893, 61·09.

SAVINGS BANKS.

The natives are slowly but surely recognising the advantages of thrift in the matter of saving their money. The sum standing to the

Gold Coast. 1893.

credit of depositors in the Government Savings Bank on the 31st December was 3,924*l.* 7*s.* 7*d.*, being an increase over the sum remaining on deposit on the 31st December 1892 of 414*l.* 6*s.* 7*d.* The number of depositors had increased from 264 in 1892 to 279 in 1893.

The following table gives the details of the progress of each bank :—

Bank.	No. of Depositors.		Amount Deposited.	
	1892.	1893.	1892.	1893.
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Accra	89	103	1,502 17 11	1,747 6 6
Ada	87	76	19 3 6	61 15 3
Cape Coast	23	26	642 13 8	1,005 6 0
Chama	2	3	0 12 0	1 10 0
Elmina	14	11	461 0 0	26 14 0
Kwitta	9	12	75 18 0	54 3 0
Saltpond	2	11	—	167 6 9
Tarkwa	33	34	29 10 0	19 1 0
Winneba	5	3	9 19 8	1 3 3

Bank.	Amount withdrawn.		Remaining on deposit on 31st December.	
	1892.	1893.	1892.	1893.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Accra	1,705 12 10	1,690 15 8	2,555 0 0	2,679 0 0
Ada	92 8 5	31 19 10	33 0 0	63 0 0
Cape Coast	498 8 11	889 7 4	536 0 0	677 0 0
Chama	0 1 0	1 0 0	0 11 0	1 0 0
Elmina	140 3 8	21 15 2	158 0 0	167 0 0
Kwitta	10 10 5	71 13 0	153 0 0	120 0 0
Saltpond	—	0 3 0	2 0 0	170 0 0
Tarkwa	19 12 0	36 16 4	61 0 0	45 0 0
Winneba	5 5 0	9 6 9	11 0 0	3 0 0

Postal and Telegraph Statistics.

Postal.

On the 1st March the system of remitting money between one part of the Colony and another by means of postal orders of fixed values was brought into operation, and during the ten months orders were sold of the total value of 1,231*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.*

An overland mail service between the Gold Coast and the French Protectorate of Assinie has been established and additional facilities have been given in connection with the despatch and receipt of parcels.

The work of the post-office department is increasing very rapidly, as is shown by the following comparative statement of the transactions of the past five years and is another sign of the progress of the Colony :—

Year.	No. of Post Offices.	Estimated No. of Letters, &c. Posted.	No. of Money Order Offices.	Money Orders issued.				Parcels.	
				Inland.		Foreign.		Number received.	Number Despatched.
				No.	Value.	No.	Value.		
					£ s. d.		£ s. d.		
1889 - -	26	146,905	2	363	1,209 19 1	1,175	4,572 2 6	1,000	407
1890 - -	26	161,726	2	399	1,681 11 11	1,213	3,481 18 0	1,524	378
1891 - -	30	205,035	3	562	1,985 1 4	1,549	5,142 18 4	1,871	497
1892 - -	31	225,293	5	904	3,193 8 0	1,970	7,251 1 11	1,815	564
1893 - -	31	335,112	5	893	3,787 11 2	2,715	9,525 13 7	2,071	691

Telegraphs.

On the 24th May 1887, the date on which the telegraph wires were made available for public use, there were nine telegraph offices and 108 miles of telegraph lines. On 31st December 1893 the length of line had been increased to 368 miles, and the number of telegraph offices to 18. The extension of the telegraphs to Axim has been completed and a line has been constructed from Ada, on the coast, to Akuse, a town on the River Volta and the headquarters of the Commissioner of the Volta River District. This latter line has been further extended to Kpong, a large trading town on the river.

The telegraph system has also been joined with that of the German Colony of Togoland, which is thus afforded access with Europe by means of the Gold Coast Government lines and the cables of the African Direct Telegraph Company, whose office is at Accra. The handing-over station for the Gold Coast and Togoland telegraph system is Danoe, a town on the Gold Coast side of the frontier.

During the year, a total of 60,031 telegrams was dealt with, of which 29,968 emanated from the public, yielding a revenue of 1,822*l.* 7*s.* 0*d.* The sum of 2,466*l.* 7*s.* 7*d.*, was collected for 1,104 messages destined for transmission over the cables of the African Direct Telegraph Company, and 930 messages were received from that Company for transmission to various places in the Colony; on these messages a terminal rate of 2*d.* a word is charged.

The following table shows the progress of the telegraphs since May 1887 :—

Year.	Number of Offices.	Miles of Wire.	Number of Telegrams dealt with.				Receipts.		
			Public.	Government.	Cable.	Totals.	Inland Telegrams.	For Cable Company.	Totals.
							£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1887 -	9	108	4,399	17,130	—	21,529	252 0 9	—	252 0 9
1888 -	11	178	9,243	27,223	—	36,466	518 7 0	—	518 7 0
1889 -	11	178	14,493	22,481	715	37,689	786 1 0	904 4 7	1,690 5 7
1890 -	12	178	17,722	22,286	1,029	41,037	927 6 0	1,233 13 3	2,260 19 3
1891 -	13	210	17,513	21,157	1,274	39,944	1,015 10 9	1,586 17 1	2,602 7 10
1892 -	16	265	19,773	25,365	1,516	46,654	1,182 18 4	1,822 7 0	3,005 5 4
1893 -	18	368	27,934	30,063	2,034	60,031	1,822 7 0	2,466 7 7	4,288 14 7

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The several Government offices in Accra are connected by telephone to a central exchange (20 connections) with which exchange also the Government Sanatorium at Aburi, a distance of 26 miles, is in telephonic communication.

Internal Communication.

Very little practical work was done during the year towards permanently improving the road communication of the Colony. The arrangements for the organization of a roads department were, however, carefully considered and worked out, and upon the arrival of trained men from England it is intended that this important matter shall be taken in hand. The present tracks are for the most part mere gullies, worn by continuous foot-traffic, which during the rains become almost impassable. It is hoped that when these tracks are widened, their trace and gradient made easier, the waterways which cross them permanently bridged, and the swamps made passable at all seasons, the natives will be induced to adopt some form of wheeled transport which will render possible a material development of the trade with the interior. It is not intended to construct great highways or even second or third-class roads, in the sense in which such works are understood in more civilized countries, but to construct, and keep in order when constructed, roads which can be used by traders and travellers at all periods of the year, and roads which, as the wants of the natives progress, can be developed into something better.

It is calculated that there are some 800 miles of what may be called main trade roads to be constructed, and, taking one road with another, the cost per mile will be 100*l.* There are also many important branch roads which will be taken in hand later.

The survey for a railway from the coast to the interior was proceeded with under Captain Lang, R.E., assisted by Mr. Foord, who upon Captain Lang's services being enlisted in connection with the expedition into Attabubu referred to under the head of "Military and Police Forces" took charge of the work until its completion early in 1894. The district selected for the railway is through the oil-producing countries of Mankessim, Edjumaku, and Essikuma, and so up to Insuaim, the capital town of the country of Western Akim, or as it is better known by the natives, Kotiko. It is geographically the most central town of the Colony and on that account is suitable as a converging point for branch railways.

General Remarks.

There is no doubt that during the year under review a steady advance has been made in the prosperity of the Colony. Trade has been good, reaching in value a total of 1,440,460*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.*, there is a balance to the credit of the Colony of 175,615*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.*, available in great part for the carrying out of long-conceived public works of importance, and of improving and extending

communication, sanitation, and education, three important factors in the welfare of a country and its people, and, finally, the various tribes within the Protectorate have been at peace. The only disturbing element has been the restlessness of the kingdom of Ashanti, the King of which country, knowing that his position as King paramount of the Ashanti confederation is precarious (he has never been formally elected, and holds his position by force of arms), keeps his people in a constant state of petty warfare to prevent attention being turned to the legality of his claims. This state of things, always intolerable on account of the disturbance of trade, was aggravated by the designs of the King(Kwaku Dua III.) upon the country of Attabubu, as shown under the head of "Military and Civil Forces."

Signs are not wanting, however, that the sanguinary rule of this monarch is nearing its end. Already the power of the Government is being felt by the Ashantis, and it is hoped that a peaceful solution may be found to the question as to the best way of curbing the savage rule and influence of the Ashanti kingdom, and of putting an end to the degrading custom of human sacrifices, which, no matter what may be said to the contrary, are, it is known, carried on to the same extent now as in years past.

I regret extremely that this report on the statistics of the Blue Book for 1893 should have been so delayed, as delay lessens its value, and detracts from any interest which might otherwise attach to it. I was, however, on leave of absence from the 11th March to the 20th November 1894, and found on my return to the Gold Coast that the work of writing a report had not been taken up.

F. M. HODGSON,
Colonial Secretary.

Accra, Gold Coast,
December 31, 1894.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 128.

GRENADA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1893.

(For Report for 1892, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 82.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
February 1895.

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1895.

[C.—7629.-11.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
95	Lagos	1892
96	Sierra Leone	,,
97	Fiji	,,
98	Rodrigues	,,
99	St. Helena	,,
100	British Bechuanaland	1892–93
101	British Guiana	,,
102	Newfoundland	1892
103	Jamaica	1892–93
104	Victoria	1892
105	Bermuda	1893
106	Gambia	,,
107	Hong Kong	,,
108	St. Vincent	,,
109	Gibraltar	,,
110	Bahamas	,,
111	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
112	Leeward Islands	,,
113	Barbados	,,
114	Malta	,,
115	Zululand	,,
116	British Honduras	,,
117	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
118	Falkland Islands	,,
119	Rodrigues	,,
120	Mauritius	,,
121	Straits Settlements	,,
122	Labuan	,,
123	Basutoland	1893–94
124	St. Lucia	1893
125	St. Helena	,,
126	Ceylon	,,
127	Fiji	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 128.

GRENADA.

[For Report for 1892, *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 82.]

Sir CHAS. BRUCE to the MARQUESS of RIPON.

MY LORD, Grenada, October 27, 1894.

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Blue Book of the Colony of Grenada for the year 1893.

2. The Revenue of the year 1893 was raised from the same sources as in 1892 without additional taxation. It amounted to 59,210*l.*, as compared with 55,818*l.*, the revenue of 1892. The Expenditure was 58,039*l.*, as compared with 59,570*l.* in 1892. The surplus of Revenue was therefore 1,171*l.*; but this surplus was due to the fact that in the month of December duty was paid on all the available stock of rum in bond, in anticipation of an increase of duty, to take effect from the 1st of January 1894, by the substitution of the proof gallon for the liquid gallon as the measure of collection. The other heads of Revenue which showed improved receipts were Customs, Interest and Telephones.

3. The economy of expenditure was effected chiefly in the Department of Public Works, in which there was a decrease of over 2,800*l.* as compared with 1892. On the other hand, the charge on account of the Public Debt exceeded the charge of the previous year by about 900*l.* The balance of Assets over Liabilities on the 31st of December was 2,273*l.*

4. The Public Debt at that date amounted to 96,100*l.*, inclusive of loans secured on the General Revenue of the Colony, but for which Local Boards are responsible. During the year, debentures to the amount of 6,300*l.* bearing interest at 4½ per cent. were converted into Inscribed Stock bearing interest at 4 per cent., and a small balance of 475*l.*, 5 Per Cent. Debentures held in Grenada was redeemed.

5. The value of the Colony's exports rose to 316,063*l.*, as compared with 264,643*l.* in 1892. The average value of exports for the four years preceding 1892 was 232,000*l.* The export of cocoa amounted to 93,668 cwt., of the estimated value of 281,000*l.*, as compared with 75,369 cwt., of the value of 226,100*l.*, exported in 1892. In 1883 the export of cocoa was 46,351 cwt., of the value of 139,053*l.* In 1873 there were exported 24,154 cwt. of cocoa, of the value of 61,811*l.*

6. The export of spice (nutmegs) in 1893 is returned at 2,086 cwt., of the value of 14,546*l.*, as compared with 2,235 cwt., of the value of 15,650*l.*, exported in 1892. In 1883 the export of spice was 957 cwt., of the value of 5,360*l.* In 1873, 170 cwt. of spice were exported, of the value of 1,275*l.* The present price of nutmegs has made proprietors cautious about the extension of this cultivation.

7. Sugar has ceased to be an export of significance. It is noteworthy that in a Colony in which sugar was a few years ago the staple export, the export in 1893 amounted to only 1,170 cwt., of the value of 731*l.*; while the import amounted to 2,061 cwt., of the reputed value in the local market of 2,564*l.* In 1892 the export was only 170 cwt. In 1883 the export was 36,995 cwt. of the value of 25,896*l.*; in 1873 there were exported 72,366 cwt. of sugar of the value of 56,386*l.* The sugar industry is at present almost exclusively confined to the manufacture of Muscovado for local consumption, molasses and rum. In 1893 local stills yielded 62,807 gallons of rum, of the reputed value of 7,851*l.*

8. The export of cotton and cotton seed, the principal produce of the Island of Carriacou, was less than in 1892, owing to an unfavourable season. The cultivation of coffee is extending, but the export of 1893 fell short of that of 1892.

9. Among the minor agricultural industries which appear to be of steadily growing promise may be mentioned the cultivation of fruit, plantains and kola. The export of fruit, chiefly to Trinidad, has increased five-fold during the last few years. The hope entertained that the subsidy given to a direct line of steamers to New York would open a flourishing fruit trade with America, has not been realised, but the direct steamer service gave a general stimulus to commerce with the United States. The volume of this trade in 1893 was, however, not quite equal to the trade of 1892.

10. The value of imports during the year amounted to 166,678*l.*, as compared with 158,702*l.* in 1892. The imports in detail show no variation of importance.

11. Aggregating exports and imports, the volume of foreign trade amounted to 482,741*l.* of which the United Kingdom claims 376,255*l.*, British Colonies 46,357*l.*, the United States 53,063*l.*, France and the French colony of Martinique 5,122*l.*

12. No Public Work of importance was commenced or completed during the year; but the telephone system was extended, and has proved a great success. When one of Her Majesty's Ships visits the port of St. George, an apparatus is placed on board, and within half an hour the Commander is placed in communication with every part of the Island. The Public Roads continued to be well maintained under the Road Boards.

13. The legislation of the year included three Ordinances of general interest. An Ordinance was passed to amend and consolidate the laws relating to Primary Education. The Board of Education constituted under this enactment is engaged on a

Revised Code of Rules for the management of Primary Schools. An Ordinance was also passed to adapt the law of the Colony to the Imperial Act relating to bills of exchange, cheques, and promissory notes. At the end of the year the tonnage due levied on vessels entering the Port of St. George was abolished, and a water-rate charged on water supplied to vessels in the Port.

14. The estimated population of the Colony on the 31st of December was 56,413, showing a natural increase at the rate of rather less than two per cent. per annum on the population enumerated by the census of 1891. The births of the year were almost exactly divided between legitimate and illegitimate. It is satisfactory to add that the illegitimate birth-rate has showed a steady decline for four years. The death-rate of the year was 24·96 per 1,000; the average rate for the last six years was 23·55 per 1,000. The health of the Colony was good throughout the year, with the exception of an outbreak of fever of malarial type in Carriacou in the autumn.

15. The criminal statistics for the year show an increase in the convictions for petty offences, but this appears to be due, to a large extent, to increased activity on the part of the Police. Convictions for using foul or abusive language materially swell the statistics under this head. I am inclined to think that the prison population of the Colony might with advantage be reduced by the adaptation of local legislation to the principles governing the treatment of first offences in England.

16. The transactions of the Savings Bank were disturbed in 1892 by circumstances connected with the system of police pensions and rewards; they have now resumed their regular course of progress. In 1888 the number of depositors was 277, with a balance at credit of depositors, on the 31st of December, of 5,632*l.*; in 1893 the number of depositors was 716, with a balance at their credit, on the 31st of December, of 7,994*l.*

17. On the whole, it may be said that the year 1893 was a year of prosperity and progress in Grenada.

I have, &c.

CHARLES BRUCE.

No. 133.

BRITISH GUIANA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1893-4.

(For Report for 1892–3 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 101.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
May 2, 1895.

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1895.

[C.—7629.-16.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty'sColonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
101	British Guiana	1892–93
102	Newfoundland	1892
103	Jamaica	1892–3
104	Victoria	1892
105	Bermuda	1893
106	Gambia	,,
107	Hong Kong	,,
108	St. Vincent	,,
109	Gibraltar	,,
110	Bahamas	,,
111	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
112	Leeward Islands	,,
113	Barbados	,,
114	Malta	,,
115	Zululand	,,
116	British Honduras	,,
117	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
118	Falkland Islands	,,
119	Rodrigues	,,
120	Mauritius	,,
121	Straits Settlements	,,
122	Labuan	,,
123	Basutoland	1893–94
124	St. Lucia	1893
125	St. Helena	,,
126	Ceylon	,,
127	Fiji	,,
128	Grenada	,,
129	Sierra Leone	,,
130	British Bechuanaland	1893–94
131	British New Guinea	1892–3 & 1893–4
132	Lagos	1893

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.

No. 133.

BRITISH GUIANA.

[For Report for 1892–3 *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 101.]

Sir C. C. LEES to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House, Georgetown,
MY LORD MARQUESS, Demerara, October 31, 1894.

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Blue Book for the year 1893–94, together with the report of the Assistant Government Secretary thereon.

I have, &c.
C. C. LEES,
Governor.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1893–94.

TAXATION.

The alterations in taxation during the year under review were few and unimportant. The Combined Court which met in March, 1893, passed short Ordinances, extending for one year from the 1st April the operation of the Tax and Customs Duties Ordinances which were about to expire. The duty payable by the holder of a Retail Spirit License on rum taken out of Bond over and above the quantity on which his licence is based was raised to 6*s.* 3*d.* per gallon and the classes of explosives admitted under varying rates of duty were re-arranged.

Within the last few days, however, important alterations have taken place in the customs tariff. The United States of America having reimposed a duty on the sugars of the Colony, the commercial arrangement entered into two and a half years ago with the States, under which duties levied here on American products were removed or modified has lapsed, and British Guiana has returned to the customs tariff in force prior to the 1st April, 1892. Although these changes do not belong to the history of the year 1893–94, it may be convenient in a matter of

such wide commercial interest to bring this report up to date, and I therefore attach as an appendix the new tariff which came into force on the 14th instant.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Revenue. — The revenue of the year 1893–4 amounted to 602,762*l*, exceeding that of the previous year by 29,299*l*., and that of 1891–2 by 39,599*l*. The principal items which exhibit an increase are:—

	1892–3.	1893–4.	Cause.
	£	£	
General import duties	242,192	254,159	Improvement in trade.
Wines and spirits	44,040	45,847	Increased consumption.
Rum duty	63,197	67,296	Increased duty.
Retail spirit licenses	77,816	80,152	Higher classification.
Acreage tax	5,598	8,302	Full year at the increased rate.
Fines and seizures	4,644	5,741	Ordinary fluctuation.

The only item which shews a reduction of any importance is:—

	1892–3.	1893–4.	Cause.
	£	£	
Government lands, houses, and establishments.	11,611	9,820	Withdrawal of labour of farmer class.

Expenditure. — The expenditure for the year amounted to 566,833*l*., or 24,364*l*. more than in the previous year; there is consequently a surplus on the year's transactions of 35,929*l*.

The principal items which exhibit an increase of expenditure are—

	1892–3.	1893–4.	Cause.
	£	£	
Public Works	25,006	26,785	Ordinary fluctuation.
Immigration	35,428	40,888	Larger number introduced.
Post Office	23,719	25,976	Increased staff and appliances.
Medical department	15,592	20,960	Planters contribution reduced.
Police	59,149	61,161	Strengthening of force.
Militia	3,492	5,454	Uniform, pay, and capitation.
Department of Mines	2,535	7,247	Increased work and strengthening department.
Public debt	42,702	45,491	Increased sinking fund provision.

and the chief amongst those which show a decrease are :—

	1892–3.	1893–4.	Cause.
	£	£	
Government Land Department.	9,393	8,053	Work transferred to Department of Mines.
Prisons - - -	19,803	17,086	Lesser number of prisoners.

IMPORTS.

The following statement shows the principal articles of Food imported during the year as compared with the preceding twelve months :—

Statement of the Principal Articles of Food Imported during the Years 1892–93 *and* 1893–94.

	1892–3.		1893–4.		1893–4.	1893–4.
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Increase in Quantity.	Decrease in Quantity.
		£		£		
Beef, pickled, brls. -	12,659	29,207	8,070	21,013	—	4,589
Bread, lbs. - -	598,260	6,170	671,100	5,492	72,840	—
Butter, lbs. - -	597,262	23,888	516,129	22,205	—	81,133
Corn and pulse, bush. -	137,320	30,593	171,329	34,264	34,009	—
Oatmeal and cornmeal, lbs.	1,508,099	5,952	1,632,078	5,536	123,979	—
Fish, dried, cwt. - -	69,498	59,105	65,697	61,901	—	3,801
Flour, brls. -	190,353	165,591	205,355	155,350	14,502	—
Lard, lbs. - - -	420,548	6,260	386,106	6,897	—	34,442
Onions, lbs. - -	2,151,254	7,439	3,616,465	9,276	1,465,211	—
Pork, brls. - - -	18,387	49,871	19,256	65,511	869	—
Rice, lbs. - - -	37,767,948	153,693	39,418,040	168,531	1,650,092	—

As a whole the statistics relating to imports are decidedly satisfactory. The value amounted to 1,920,710*l.* or 140,391*l.* more than in 1892–3. The gold industry is directly responsible for a large portion of the excess, and indirectly, it may be said, for the whole of it, for the enlarged spending power of the people indicated by the larger importations of building material, carriages, clothing, haberdashery, — as distinguished from linen, cotton and woollen goods, in which there was a falling off,—hardware and cutlery, &c., &c., is undoubtedly due to the increased circulation of money and its more general distribution.

BRITISH GUIANA. 1893–4.

EXPORTS.

The following is a comparative statement of the value of Exports in the years 1892–93 and 1893–94, showing the increase or decrease in 1893–94, on each item of Export :—

Articles.	Value.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1892–3.	1893–4.	1893–4.	1893–4.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Sugar	1,569,972 13 4	1,568,520 12 1	—	1,452 1 3
Rum	202,294 4 8	121,584 1 9	—	80,710 2 11
Molasses	30,640 18 3	33,625 9 9	2,984 11 6	—
Gold	492,937 12 1½	510,710 0 0½	17,772 7 11	—
Timber	21 831 11 0½	15,488 14 7	—	6,342 16 5½
Charcoal	9,247 10 1½	9,246 13 9	—	16 4½
Gum, Balata	11,296 5 3	18,283 2 6	—	3,013 2 9
Do., other	341 2 9½	82 3 4	—	258 19 5½
Shingles	1,913 3 3½	1,226 2 7	—	687 0 8½
Hides	1,569 7 11	1,642 12 3	73 4 4	—
Cocoanuts	338 19 2	171 15 10	—	167 3 4
Chocolate	469 5 6	2,387 17 3	1,918 11 9	—
Cocoa	35 14 0	110 5 0	74 11 0	—
Isinglass	263 12 11½	293 10 9	29 17 8½	—
Cattle and live stock	943 10 10	876 13 4	—	66 17 6
Bread, biscuits, &c.	303 6 8	154 9 7	—	148 17 1
Cassava starch	148 6 8	—	—	148 6 8
Firewood	136 3 0	128 18 10	—	7 4 2
Fibre	73 9 6	86 18 0	13 8 6	—
Lumber	696 11 0½	364 0 11	—	332 10 1½
Plantains	63 6 0	14 16 8	—	48 9 4
Coffee	202 3 7	446 13 4	244 9 9	—
Miscellaneous	2,063 10 9½	843 13 0½	—	1,219 17 9
Corn and pulse	72 1 8	18 15 0	—	53 6 8
Total colonial produce	2,347,854 10 2	2,276,308 0 1	23,111 2 5½	94,657 12 6½
Total foreign produce	85,358 17 2	82,610 6 4½		
Total exports	2,433,213 7 4	2,358,918 6 5½		
Net decrease, colonial produce, 1893–4.	—	—	—	71,546 10 1
Net decrease, foreign produce, 1893–4.	—	—	—	2,748 10 9½
£	2,433,213 7 4	2,358,918 6 5½	—	74,295 0 10½

The deficiency occurs amongst the staple products of the Colony, sugar, rum, and timber, and is only slightly reduced by the increases on gold and molasses. The production of sugar was less by 5,119 tons, but slightly better prices reduced the actual loss in value to 1,452*l.* 39,759 tons went to the United Kingdom,

and 61,615 to the United States. The United Kingdom took the bulk of the rum, 1,810,400 gallons; British North America followed with 76,016 gallons; and the Dutch West Indies with 62,800. Molasses was more evenly distributed, 807,600 gallons went to the French West Indies, 140,200 to French Guiana, 123,000 gallons to Holland, and 91,800 gallons to British North America. Almost all the timber found a market in the United Kingdom, which was also the destination of all the raw gold.

The following comparative statement shows the direction and value of the trade of the Colony in 1892–3 and 1893–4:—

Countries.	Imports.		Exports.	
	1892–3.	1893–4.	1892–3.	1893–4.
	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	949,051	1,046,862	1,270,794	1,234,205
United States	437,395	481,333	980,563	898,464
British North America	91,012	89,809	63,820	98,869
British West Indies	76,993	68,250	25,019	32,085
Bermuda	1,014	1,627	1,177	2,068
East India	134,404	151,957	605	1,652
Foreign countries other than United States.	86,735	79,057	89,769	91,575
African possessions	—	423	486	—
Newfoundland	3,715	1,392	980	—
Total £	1,780,319	1,920,710	2,433,213	2,358,918

The following statement shows the number of vessels entered and cleared at the ports of the Colony during the financial year 1893 and 1894:—

Ports.	Entered.			Cleared.		
	No.	Tons.	Crews.	No.	Tons.	Crews.
Steam vessels:—						
Georgetown	221	189,326	8,010	210	178,643	7,886
New Amsterdam	4	4,133	117	15	14,984	399
North Western District	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	225	193,459	8,127	225	193,627	8,285
Sailing vessels:—						
Georgetown	493	125,456	4,286	493	124,804	4,254
New Amsterdam	22	5,839	158	21	5,248	142
North Western District	*39	85	50	1	30	5
Totals	554	131,360	4,494	515	130,082	4,401
Totals, steam and sailing vessels	779	324,819	12,621	740	323,709	12,686

* NOTE.—These are small boats entering this little port at Barima, and the Clearance Statistics are incomplete. Thirty-nine must be deducted from the total of 779 or added to the total of 740.

The following comparative table distinguishes steam from sailing vessels :—

Vessels.	1892-3.		1893-4.		Increase, 1893-4.		Decrease, 1893-4.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered:—								
Steam Vessels - -	222	187,130	225	193,459	3	6,329	—	—
Sailing Vessels - -	529	137,427	554	131,360	25	—	—	6,067
Totals - - -	751	324,557	779	324,819	28	6,329	—	6,067
Cleared:—								
Steam Vessels - -	225	191,122	225	193,627	—	2,505	—	—
Sailing Vessels - -	526	137,005	515	130,082	—	—	11	6,923
Totals - -	751	328,127	740	323,709	—	2,505	11	6,923

LOCAL REVENUES.

Georgetown, the principal city of the Colony, is favourably situated at the mouth of the Demerara River and is open to the sea-breeze. It has 53,000 inhabitants and the municipal affairs are administered by a Mayor and Town Council. The municipal revenue for the year amounted to 50,265*l.* including a grant from general revenue of 4,166*l.*, and taxes on house property bringing in 27,938*l.* The expenditure was 53,784*l.*, of which 7,586*l.* went in redemption of bonds, and 4,455*l.* in interest on loans, the remainder being spent on town maintenance or works of improvement.

The city is now lit by electricity, the rectangular formation of the streets lending itself readily to the system of arc lamps which during the year superseded the former combination of gas and incandescent lamps.

New Amsterdam, the only other town of importance as regards resident population (8,903) is situated about 12 miles up the Berbice River and has also its Mayor and Town Council. The revenue and expenditure for the year amounted respectively to 7,963*l.* and 7,954*l.*

On the 23rd June, the Mayor and Town Council obtained from the Combined Court a further loan of 5,625*l.* for the improvement and completion of the Water Supply of the Town. The total cost of the new scheme is estimated at 8,330*l.*, but the Mayor and Town Council have the difference in hand from their last loan.

Villages.—Nineteen villages, with a population of 28,233, conducted their own affairs during the year on a semi-independent basis. Plaisance is the largest (3,187) and Craig the smallest (395). A tax of 2 per cent. on houses and land (in one village

3 per cent.) yielded 3,951*l.* The expenditure on these villages amounted to 4,053*l.*

At the close of the year the unexpended balance of the sum of 2,083*l.* at the disposal of the Central Board of Health for urgent and unforeseen expenses, was handed over to the villagers to meet the cost of many pressing works which had attended the first year of the new village administration system, and loans to the extent of 1,650*l.* were made by the Governor-in-Council from funds provided for the purpose by the Combined Court.

Public Debt.

The total Debt of the Colony on the 31st March, 1894, was—

	£
For sums borrowed for Public Purposes for which the revenue of the Colony is directly pledged	719,200
For sums borrowed by Corporations or Public Bodies under the authority of Special Laws, and on the security of the revenue of the Colony	157,675

the total amount for which the revenue of the Colony is pledged being therefore 876,875*l.*

But from out of the first-mentioned sum there has been lent to Corporations and Public Bodies on security of their revenues a further sum of 334,995*l.*, so that the amount by which the total Public Debt is reduced by loans repayable, is really 492,670*l.* leaving a Public Debt for money borrowed and spent on Public Works of 384,205*l.*

The following is a statement of loans and advances referred to in the last paragraph—

	£
To the Mayor and Town Council of Georgetown	105,416
To the Mayor and Town Council of New Amsterdam	18,645
To Commissioners in aid of Water Supply Works	137,405
Miscellaneous Loans recoverable	73,529

Public Works.

The expenditure from current revenue on maintenance, repairs, and additions amounted to 26,988*l.*, and on new works charged to loan account to 24,447*l.* Amongst the latter works were a female ward for the almshouse in Berbice; a new hospital for the Convict Prison at Massaruni; additional accommodation at the Onderneeming Industrial School, Magistrate's houses at Kalacoon and on the Essequebo Coast, and a Quarantine Station at the mouth of the Demerara River.

MILITARY EXPENDITURE.

The defences of the Colony are entrusted to a semi-military armed force of police and a militia. The latter consisted at the close of the year of the Colonel-Commandant, who is also Inspector-General of Police, 13 officers and 303 privates. Since then, however, the term of service of a large number of privates has expired, and an ordinance has been passed permitting re-engagement for one year instead of three years. The expenditure on the force amounted to 5,460*l.*

LEGISLATION.

The legislation of the year consisted of 29 Ordinances, and was remarkable for an important work of consolidation of the criminal laws of the Colony. The subjects dealt with were, the Supreme Court, the Magistrate Courts, petty debts and damages, summary conviction offences, summary conviction offences procedure, indictable offences, indictable offences procedure, evidence, appeals, &c. The magnitude of the work may be gathered from the fact that this work of consolidation demanded the repeal of 121 ordinances, parts of ordinances or Orders-in-Council, which was accomplished by one repealing Ordinance.

POLITICAL FRANCHISE.

There is no alteration to record under this head and there has been no political agitation of any sort during the year. The annual registration of voters resulted in an increase of 13, the total being now 2,388. In the county of Demerara, there was an increase of 14; in the county of Essequebo an increase of seven, and in the town of New Amsterdam a reduction of 11.

CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

There were fewer changes than usual in the Civil Establishment during the year. His Excellency Sir Charles Cameron Lees, K.C.M.G., who succeeded the Right Honourable Viscount Gormanston, K.C.M.G., arrived in the Colony and assumed the Government on the 5th July. Sir Charles Bruce, K.C.M.G., went on leave on the 27th July, and was shortly after appointed Governor of the Windward Islands. The Hon. Francis Villiers, C.M.G., acted as Government Secretary from the departure of Sir Charles Bruce until the arrival of his successor, the Honourable Cavendish Boyle, C.M.G.

Chief Justice Sir David Chalmers was absent on leave from the 4th May to the 30th September, and later on for a few weeks on special service in Jamaica. His Honour Mr. Justice Sheriff acted as Chief Justice on both occasions.

The Honourable Dr. Carrington, Q.C., C.M.G., Attorney-General, also left on the 22nd February, on leave of absence, during which he has been engaged on the preparation of a new and revised edition of the Statute Laws of the Colony. Mr. Kingdon, Q.C., the Solicitor-General, has acted as Attorney-General in Dr. Carrington's absence.

The Report of the Directors of the Widows' and Orphans' Fund shows that thirteen Public Officers died in 1893 whilst in the service, amongst whom were Mr. W. S. Turner, Chief Commissary, and the Venerable Thomas Farrar, Archdeacon of Demerara. Of these nine left widows, who were provided for by the Fund.

Population.

The vital statistics again exhibit an excess of deaths over births, the figures being respectively 9,580 and 7,593. Heavy as the former unfortunately is, it is gratifying to find it below the previous year, when, owing chiefly to the influenza epidemic, the deaths numbered 11,070. Immigration from India, after deducting those who returned to that country, augmented the population by 2,271, thus leaving an estimated decrease in the population at the close of the year of 16, the actual figures being 278,279. There has however been a desultory immigration from the neighbouring Islands of which no official record exists, which more than compensates for the apparent deficit.

Immigration.

India supplied the Colony with 5,236 immigrants during the year, (3,214 men 1,303 women and 719 children), more by 543 than the number introduced during the previous year. 257 of these had served in British Guiana before, and 192 had been in other Colonies.

The immigrant population on 31st December, 1893, was 110,046; of this number 18,181 were indentured, 35,064 unindentured, and 15,709 children; the number not residing on estates was estimated at 41,092. The mortality amongst the former was 2·60 per cent. amongst the unindentured 3·30 per cent., and amongst the children 5·67 per cent., figures which compare favourably with the year before.

The amount remitted by immigrants to their friends and relatives in India was 3,061*l.*, and 118,431*l.* stood to their credit in the Savings Banks of the Colony. They owned 15,000 head of cattle and 2,700 sheep.

1,848 immigrants availed themselves of the privilege of a free return passage to India and took with them savings amounting to 18,283*l.* in money and 3,541*l.* in jewellery, the largest amount owned by one man being 739*l.*

An important alteration in the conditions under which Emigrants are engaged in India has been sanctioned of the Imperial and Indian Governments. It is embodied in the following Resolution of the Court of Policy:—

Be it resolved,—That this Court approves of the proposals made by the Government of India, with respect to the question of the Return Passages of indentured East India Immigrants to this Colony, such proposals being as follows:—

(1.) The Emigration Agent for this Colony in India may, and, subject to the direction of the Governor, shall, refuse to engage as immigrants to this Colony persons who have previously proceeded to this Colony as immigrants and have returned to India, except upon the condition that such persons shall have no right to a free return passage;

(2.) The said Emigration Agent, in engaging as immigrants to this Colony persons who have not previously proceeded to this Colony as immigrants and returned to India, shall make it a condition of the contract of engagement that such persons, not being destitute or disabled persons, shall at the termination of ten years continuous residence in the Colony, provided they have during that time obtained, or become entitled to, a certificate of exemption from labour, if they desire to return to India, be entitled to a return passage on the payment of one-fourth of the passage-money in the case of men and of one-sixth in the case of women;

(3.) Persons described in paragraph (2.) of this Resolution who after fulfilling the conditions therein mentioned, are destitute or disabled shall be entitled to a free return passage; and

(4.) Persons dependent on persons described in paragraphs (2.) and (3.) of this Resolution shall be entitled to a free return passage along with the persons on whom they are dependent.

EDUCATION.

There were 114 students at Queen's College at the close of the year, practically the same as in the previous year. This is a Government Institution and the course of instruction is the same as that of a Public School or First Grade Grammar School in England. At the Cambridge Local Examination held at Georgetown in December, 1893, thirteen students passed, eleven of them taking honours. A scholarship is granted annually, on the results of the Cambridge Local Examination held in December, of the value of 200*l.* per annum tenable for three years, or, in the event of the holder selecting the medical profession, 150*l.* per annum, tenable for five years, with a free passage to England and back in either case.

Primary education was conducted as hitherto by State-aided denominational schools, and the year's figures show a small but gratifying progress. The number of State-aided Schools had increased by ten and now stands at 197, the grants earned amounted to 18,798*l.*, as against 17,894*l.*, the numbers of pupils on the books and in average attendance were respectively 26,872 and 14,721, also a proportionate increase, and the cost to the Colony per child examined, exclusive of the establishment, was 1*l.* 1*s.* 2*d.*

At the Combined Court in March last the necessary funds were voted to provide some scholarships and prizes to pupils of primary schools. The former will enable a pupil to proceed direct from a primary school to an approved higher grade school, where in turn he will be eligible to compete for the colonial scholarship, which will take him home and give him a profession.

AGRICULTURE.

The following is a comparative statement of the quantities and value of Sugar, Rum, and Molasses exported in 1892–3 and 1893–4 :—

—	1892-3.		1893-4.	
	Quantities.	Value.	Quantities.	Value.
		£		£
Sugar	112,880 tons	1,569,973	107,177 tons.	1,568,520
Rum	2,579,050 galls.	202,294	1,994,550 galls.	121,584
Molasses	1,017,600 „	30,641	1,202,700 „	33,625

It is to be regretted that there is not a more favourable year to chronicle under this head. Heavy rains and the reduction of cultivation reduced the sugar crop by some 5,000 tons, but the slightly better prices which averaged during the year kept the total value up to within 1,450*l.* of 1892–3. But towards the close of the year prices again fell and at the time of writing the quotations are 3¾ cents per lb. in the American market, and 13*s.* 6*d.* to 16*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. in the English market, a serious drop from the figures of this date last year, viz. 19*s.* 3*d.* to 20*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. The falling off in the price of Rum also is a cause of the greatly lessened production.

The amalgamation of certain estates and the abandonment of others reduced the number of sugar plantations at the close of the year to 74, and the number of acres in cane cultivation fell from 76,100 to 69,814. The cultivation of plantains on sugar estates becomes less year by year, and there are now only 1,917 acres in plantains, and although many plantain farms of which there is no official record still exist, this vegetable has practically ceased, from its comparative scarcity, to be the staple food of the African population.

The wages paid on the sugar estates appear from the figures supplied by the Agricultural Committe of the Royal Agricultural and Commercial Society to have remained at much the same rate, with the exception of shovelmen, weeders, and masons, who obtained slightly higher pay.

There were no marked improvements in the mode of manufacture during the year.

Mines and Fisheries.

Mines.—There was but a slight increase in the output of Gold during the year, the amount being 138,527 ozs. as against 134,124 ozs. for the previous year. 1,425 new placer, and 751 mining claims, were located, but, of course, all are not worked, many being speculative locations abandoned after trial as unpayable; the figures are therefore only an index to the activity of prospectors. That there has not been any reduction in this yield from the placers is a matter for congratulation, for the labour supply is limited, and a considerable amount of it has been withdrawn from placer for preliminary works on the quartz reefs, and on other large but at present unproductive works. There has been a pause too, due to various causes, amongst which may perhaps be found the difficulties which arose as regards effectual search and which have been set right by legislation. The breathing time thus obtained will doubtless result in the industry being proceeded with on a more solid and less speculative basis.

Shortly after the discovery of quartz last year, several companies and syndicates were formed for the purpose of working the reefs and at the close of the year the seven principal companies, with a total capital of 217,000*l.* and a paid-up capital of 81,000*l.*, were engaged in various stages of preliminary work. Only one company has reached the point of having erected machinery and commenced crushing and their concession is on the Demerara River. The others are in the North-West District. There is, of course, no record of the capital invested by numerous unregistered syndicates and small companies, or individuals who are carrying on mining in various parts of the Colony.

The conditions of labour at the gold diggings are, perhaps, best described in the following extract from a memorandum prepared by Mr. E. P. Wood, Commissioner of Mines, for the information of correspondents:—

Climate.—The Climate is something like Northern Queensland, too hot to do hard manual work, but not too hot to prospect and to superintend the work afterwards. The heat in the shade is seldom more than 90°, though it is a very exhausting heat, and equal, in my opinion, to 120° in some other countries. There are supposed to be two wet seasons in the year, about Christmas and Midsummer, for two months each. The rain all may be taken about 110 inches a year.

Mode of Working and Labour.—Where the gold is being found in British Guiana is up the different rivers at a distance of from 100 miles from Georgetown to 300 miles. The richest district is the Potaro River, a branch of the Essequebo. Then there is the North-West District, the Cuyuni, Mazaruni and Demerara Rivers in all of which gold is being obtained. The return from these districts during the last 12 months for placer washing, was :—

	Ozs.
Essequebo	72,287
North West District	31,837
Cuyuni	24,978
Mazaruni	9,418
Demerara	5
Total	138,527

It is all forest land, very dense, and, the way of getting to the different places is by boat, the rivers all being navigable for a great distance inland. People intending gold-digging either buy or hire (the former generally) a boat sufficiently large to carry say 12 or 14 men, and three months' provisions. They then engage and register a certain number of labourers. There are steamers leaving once a week for the North-West District, and every day for Bartica, a settlement at the junction of the three rivers, Cuyuni, Mazaruni, and Essequebo. There you have to take to your boat and paddle to your destination.

Requirements.—All food, tools, &c., can be obtained in Georgetown, at reasonable rates. Boats can be made at a cost of about 25*l.* A labourer's wage is 2*s.* 8*d.* per diem and his food, the cost of which is about 10*d.* a day.

Royalty and Licenses.—The royalty on all gold obtained in the Colony is 3*s.* 9*d.* per ounce, which has to be paid in to the Colonial Treasury in Georgetown before the gold can be sold.

A prospecting licence costs 2*s* 1*d.* per month; for every grant of a mining claim 8*s.* 4*d.* a month, and for every grant of a placer claim 3*s.* 2*d.* per month.

Alluvial Working.—The size of each claim is 1,500 by 500 feet, and as a rule the depth of stripping is about four feet and the wash about two; heavily timbered all of it. Water is fairly plentiful, but has very little fall, and in a good many claims Californian pumps or spear pumps might be used advantageously instead of bailing with buckets as at present.

Reef Claims are not being worked at present, only one company erecting machinery. The quartz is very rich, many surface

samples assaying 50 ounces to the ton, and though these may have been fancy pieces, yet, even where there is no visible gold, they often give 8 to 10 ounces. So little work has been done on the reefs that it is quite out of the question to give much of an account of them. They are of all sorts and sizes, quartz very friable, and as far as I have seen not cased quite as one would wish, but still there has been so little done as yet that one cannot form a very correct judgment on permanency. Everything would point to there being an exceedingly rich reefing district, and the chief thing needed is a class of men that understand mining. The labourers will have to be educated up to underground work, but there is no reason why they should not make good miners eventually. Timber for mining purposes grows in plenty on every claim, and each claim-holder is entitled to cut what he requires free. If more is required, a wood-cutting grant can be obtained at a small rental. At present there are very few White men working, nearly all the parties are composed of blacks, financed by store-keepers and others in town. This mode of working must very shortly collapse, as the gold in many cases does not find its way to the real owners, and it is only a spirit of gambling that keeps the thing up. No doubt, eventually the labourers will form themselves into parties and work for themselves, but they are such an improvident lot that they scarcely ever save money enough to fit themselves out with even clothing before they leave for the mines. Another thing, they will not trust each other, but this might be got over by dividing the gold each night.

The only Geological Survey is a book called "Reports on the Geology of British Guiana," by Charles B. Brown, F.G.S., and J. G. Sawkins, printed and sold by Longman, Green, & Co., London.

The best time of the year to arrive in British Guiana is about October, but with the exception of July, August and September, there is very little difference in the climate all the year round.

Flooded rivers do not stop the boats going up, except on very rare occasions.

Diamonds.—Several diamonds have been found by chance in panning off the gold at the end of a day's work, and, if found like this, any old diamond miner would say they must be in pretty large quantities. I have no doubt but that if a small pulsating machine were tried, that diamond mining would pay. In sluicing there is but little chance of a diamond stopping in the box and still less chance of its being discovered in panning off, many of the labourers employed never in their lives having seen a diamond in its natural state before, but are only attracted by the peculiarity of its shape.

Fisheries.—An interesting feature of the year has been the establishment of a deep-sea fishing enterprise, which has supplied the market of Georgetown with fresh fish of excellent quality at a reasonable price. Boats of about 55 tons register, fitted with ice-chambers, are sent out to a bank in the neighbourhood of

Latitude 9° N., Longitude 58° W., which shallows to a depth of 50 to 60 fathoms. A boat makes one trip a week and the catch averages about 800 lbs.; the fish brought in are red snappers, grouper, with an occasional dolphin, albacore, and Spanish mackerel.

Grants of Land.

The past year was not marked by any great activity amongst the woodcutters or the smaller cultivators and the number of acres taken up for these purposes respectively was only 8,407 and 2,374, as compared with 20,590 and 13,388 in 1892–3. Most of the labour hitherto available has been drafted to other industries, and the remainder is not sufficient to admit of fresh country being opened up. The export of timber fell from 325,863 cubic feet to 234,870 cubic feet and the price also fell slightly.

The Ballata industry remained stationary; 77 new grants were issued but the exports fell slightly from 237,405 lbs. to 205,194 lbs.

Criminal Statistics.

The criminal statistics of the Colony are again very satisfactory in comparison to former years. The total number of offences reported to the Police fell from 10,790 to 10,417, the summary convictions in the Magistrates Courts fell from 12,462 to 11,500. In the Superior Courts the number of convictions for the graver offences was 166, or 30 less than in the previous year, but amongst them are, unfortunately, to be found four cases of murder and nine of manslaughter.

The total number of persons committed to prison was 5,736, as against 5,806 during the previous year. Men 4,639, (a decrease of 177); Women 982, (an increase of 107); and juveniles 115 (the same).

Prison discipline has been well maintained and the value of prisoners' labour on public works, &c., is estimated at 9,381*l*, compared with 5,683*l*, for the previous year. Six prisoners escaped and all were recaptured. Whipping was only inflicted once for a prison offence, and six times by order of the Courts.

The granite used in repairing the streets of Georgetown and in sea defences is obtained by prison labour from the quarries at the penal settlement on the river Massaruni, 4,210 tons, of the value of 1,094*l*., being the out-put for the year, and there are also private quarries on the Essequebo. The Georgetown Prison supplies a large portion of the labour on the sea-wall which protects the town at the mouth of the Demerara River.

Hospitals.

The public hospitals of the Colony received and treated 13,414 patients during the year and there were 1,813 deaths as compared with 11,458 cases and 1,714 deaths in the previous year. Out-patients to the number of 64,630 also received treatment at the public hospitals.

The following table shows the number of cases admitted during the year 1893–4 into the several public hospitals of the Colony, as compared with those treated in 1892–3, showing also the number of deaths under each head :—

Diseases.	Georgetown.				New Amsterdam.			
	1892–3.		1893–4.		1892–3.		1893–4.	
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
Zymotic	3,170	476	3,005	482	900	89	737	69
Constitutional	4,646	702	6,156	856	89	49	100	55
Local					582	127	621	92
Developmental	312	24	—	—	45	8	48	12
By violence	322	8	372	4	106	5	93	1
Other diseases	—	—	—	—	80	—	16	—
Not sick	—	—	213	—	—	—	36	—
Totals	8,450	1,210	9,746	1,342	1,802	278	1,651	229

continued.

Diseases.	Suddie.				Bartica.				Morawhanna.	
	1892–3.		1893–4.		1892–3.		1893–4.		1893–4.	
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
Zymotic	307	51	458	32	183	21	278	31	199	5
Constitutional	31	14	80	26	14	3	6	—	300	27
Local	376	80	474	79	216	50	155	27		
Developmental	15	3	11	—	22	3	5	—	12	—
By violence	21	—	15	2	21	1	26	2	73	2
Other diseases	—	—	9	—	—	—	2	—	3	—
Not sick	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—
Totals	750	148	1,047	139	456	78	476	60	587	34

LUNATIC ASYLUM.

This institution contained a daily average of 408 males and 212 females. The admissions during the year consisted of 92 males and 47 females, 62 were discharged as recovered and 3 as relieved, 44 males and 26 females died—four more than in 1891.

272 males and 59 females were daily employed during the year in agriculture, trades, or household work. Mechanical restraint or seclusion under lock and key has not been resorted to for years, while restraint by attendants was limited to interference between patients quarrelling or to prevent injury.

The patients were divided into the following classes :—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Maniacal and dangerous	60	32	92
Quiet chronic	261	132	393
Melancholy and suicidal	50	26	76
Idiotic, paralytic, epileptic	35	19	54
	406	209	615

LEPER ASYLUM.

The Leper Asylums at Mahaica and Gorchum contained at the close of the year 381 inmates, (294 males and 87 females) 1 less than the number on the 31st March, 1893. Of these 160 were natives, 159 coolies, the remainder consisting of Islanders, Africans, Chinese, and Portuguese. 76 males and 15 females were admitted during the year and one child was born. Seven East Indians were sent back to India, two inmates were discharged, 25 absconded, while 61 males and 12 females died. 192 males and 18 females were employed in agriculture, trades, or household work.

There is a resident medical officer and a staff of nurses.

The disease shewed itself in the following form :—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Anæsthetic	189	50	239
Tubercular	45	15	60
Mixed	60	11	71
	—	—	370

The remaining 11 were non-leprous children in the Asylum with their parents.

Difficulties as regards administration and cost have arisen in connection with the establishment of a Leper community on Liberty Island in the Essequebo river, and the question of proceeding with the work there or maintaining the present asylums at Mahaica and Gorchum is under the consideration of a Committee of the Combined Court.

POST AND TELEGRAPHS.

There was an increase of postal and telegraph business in all branches. 1,835,087 articles were conveyed through the post. Local money orders to the value of 28,261*l.* were issued and foreign money orders reached the figures of 50,172*l.*, the recently established money order exchange with the United States having

been taken advantage of to the extent of 1,166*l.* Only 5,362*l.* came into the Colony through the same channel. 12,459 service messages and 105,254 private messages were sent over the Government Telegraph Lines.

METEOROLOGICAL.

This year, like its three immediate predecessors, proved to be a wet one and the rainfall amounted to 114 inches, according to the record kept at the Botanic Gardens. October was the driest month (1·13) and December the wettest (22·97), the maximum temperature was 87° in October, and the minimum 73° in January, February and March, being also touched at rare intervals in June and July during the rains. There was no atmospheric disturbance of an unusual nature during the year. Indeed British Guiana is out of the hurricane belt and is never visited by anything more severe than a slight squall.

SAVINGS BANKS.

The Government Treasury Savings Bank, with its four branches, contained at the close of the year 261,936*l.* at the credit of 14,936 depositors, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 253,527*l.*, with 14,678 depositors. The deposits during the year amounted to 165,030*l.*, and the withdrawals to 163,597*l.* Interest at 3 per cent. was paid on deposits, and amounted to 6,976*l.* The revenue derived from invested funds was 9,040*l.* 210,071*l.* are in Government securities and deposited in the British Guiana Bank, while 48,599*l.* is on open loan to the Colony.

The number of Post Office Savings Banks was increased by five during the year and there are now 16 of them, one having been closed. Their business has rapidly increased and the amount at credit of 3,120 depositors now stands at 16,534*l.*; this sum is invested in Government Securities. The revenue amounted to 472*l.*, and the expenditure to 362*l.*

As already stated under the heading "Mines," in the excitement following the discovery of gold reefs in the Demerara River and the North-Western District several companies were floated and the capital eagerly subscribed. It is always a form of investment which attracts the multitude, and no inconsiderable portion of the 81,000*l.* which had been actually paid up in the large companies and syndicates came from the small savings of old folk and the little hoards of the younger people. As, of course, there has not at this early date been any return for these investments, it is most satisfactory to observe that the Savings Bank deposits have not been in any way affected. Not only has there been no shrinkage, but the ratio of their increase has not been disturbed.

RAILWAYS, CANALS, ROADS AND TELEGRAPHS.

Railways.—There is only one railway at present, a short line of 20 miles, from Georgetown to Mahaica, owned by the Demerara

Railway Company. It is a prosperous line. In the year under review the receipts amounted to 44,560*l.*, and the expenditure to 26,989*l.* The Company have undertaken to extend the line to New Amsterdam under a Government guarantee of 4 per cent. interest for 50 years on the cost of construction, and the details of the contract are being arranged between the Company and the Crown Agents for the Colonies. A contract has also been entered into for the construction of a line of railway connecting the Upper Demerara River and the Upper Essequebo River, with the object of opening up the interior and facilitating access to some of the gold diggings by avoiding the falls in the Essequebo River.

Roads.—161 miles of road were maintained by Government at a cost of 18,714*l.*, and 115 miles were maintained by the proprietors of sugar estates through which they run. From the 1st July these proprietors will receive a grant from the general revenue of $1. per rood in reimbursement of the cost of maintenance.

Telegraphs.—The Government Telegraph runs along the coast from Skeldon in Berbice to Sparta in Essequebo and also along the populated portions of the banks of the rivers.

There are telephone systems in Georgetown and New Amsterdam with 418 and 54 subscribers respectively. The total mileage of wire is 926 and of cables 74.

GENERAL.

Although the past year has been a satisfactory one for the Colony, whether viewed from the standpoint of the richness of her products, the value and variety of her imports, the absence of any large commercial disaster, the evident circulation of money, or the increase of Savings Bank deposits despite the demands of gold companies and other enterprises, it must be admitted that the depression which settled on the Colony towards the close of the year has deepened as the present year grew older. The low price of sugar, the phenomenal prospects of the beet crop, the uncertainty of the effect on the staple industry of the recent tariff changes in the United States, the huge stock of sugar in the States accumulated by speculative purchases at the present unremunerative rates, have created feelings of anxiety and unrest. But British Guiana has passed unshaken through seasons of adverse fortunes in the past, and in the present her legislators have not been idle: a Committee of the Combined Court is considering the position of the Colony, and especially of her chief industry, and their deliberations will doubtless result in tiding over present difficulties, and restoring to the Colony her wonted spirit of confidence and prudent enterprise.

CHARLES T. COX,
Assistant Government Secretary.

Guiana Public Buildings,
September 17, 1894.

APPENDIX.

TABLE OF SPECIFIC DUTIES OF CUSTOMS.

Article.	Rate of Duty.		
	£	s.	d.
Arrowroot - per lb.	0	0	0¼
Bacon and bacon hams - per lb.	0	0	1
Beef, admitted by the Comptroller of Customs as pickled, dried, or smoked - per barrel of 200 lbs.	0	6	3
Blue - per lb.	0	0	0½
Bran, middlings, and shorts - per bushel	0	0	2½
Bread, navy biscuits or crackers, or other kinds - per 100 lbs.	0	2	1
Bricks - per 1,000	0	4	2
Buckets and pails, of all kinds - per dozen	0	1	0½
Bulls, cows, with or without calves, heifers, steers, and oxen - per head	1	0	10
Butter, made from milk or cream - per lb.	0	0	1
Candles, adamantine, hydraulic press composition, spermaceti, wax, or any other than simple tallow - per lb.	0	0	2½
Candles, tallow - per lb.	0	0	0¾
Cartridges, filled, for guns and rifles - per 100	0	6	3
Cement - per barrel of 400 lbs.	0	1	0½
Cheese - per lb.	0	0	1
Chloral hydrate - per lb.	0	1	3
Chloroform - per lb.	0	3	0
Chocolate and cocoa, prepared otherwise than as confectionery - per lb.	0	0	2
Cigars and cigaretttes - per lb.	0	5	0
Clapboards - per 1,000 running feet	0	4	2
Coals, including the packages - per hogshead	0	1	4
Coals, patent fuel, and coke, loose - per ton	0	2	1
Cocoa, raw - per lb.	0	0	1½
Coffee, and all imitations of and substitutes for it, chicory, dandelion, and taraxacum (raw) - per lb.	0	0	1½
Collodion - per gallon	1	0	10
Confectionery, including sweetened preserves - per reputed lb.	0	0	2½
Cordage, including gasketing - per 112 lbs.	0	4	2
Corks, cut - per lb.	0	0	5
Corn or maize, crushed feed and ground feed - per bushel	0	0	5
Corn Brooms - per dozen	0	0	10
Cornmeal and oatmeal - per 100 lbs.	0	1	1½
Dogs - per head	1	0	10
Donkeys - per head	0	4	2
Dynamite, gun-cotton, lithofracteur, and all other explosives, (except gunpowder) admitted by the Comptroller of Customs as explosives for blasting purposes - per lb.	0	0	2
Gunpowder and fuses, admitted by the Comptroller of Customs as explosives for blasting purposes - per lb.	0	0	0½
Gunpowder and all other explosives other than fireworks, not admitted by the Comptroller of Customs as explosives for blasting purposes - per lb.	0	0	10
Fireworks, which in the opinion of the Comptroller of Customs are manufactured with a view to produce a pyrotechnic effect - per lb.	0	1	8

Article.	Rate of Duty.		
	£	s.	d.
Essences, flavouring - - per pint	0	1	3
Ether, acetic - - per lb.	0	1	9
Ether, sulphuric - - per gallon	0	12	6
Ethyl, Iodide of - - per gallon	0	12	6
Fish, dried - - per 112 lbs.	0	2	1
Fish, pickled, say :—			
mackerel - per barrel of 200 lbs.	0	4	2
Salmon - per barrel of 200 lbs.	0	8	4
And all other sorts - per barrel of 200 lbs.	0	1	0½
Fish, preserved, in tins or bottles - per lb.	0	0	0½
Fish, smoked - per lb.	0	0	0¼
Flour, of all descriptions - per barrel of 196 lbs.	0	4	2
Ganje - per lb.	0	16	8
Garlic - per lb.	0	0	0½
Gelatine - per lb.	0	0	2½
Ghee - per lb.	0	0	1
Ginger, raw - per lb.	0	0	1
Goats, with or without kids - per head	0	1	0½
Grain, of every description not otherwise specified, and every kind of beans, pease and pulse of every description and every kind, and whether whole or split - per bushel	0	0	2½
Gums - per lb.	0	0	1½
Hair - per lb.	0	0	2½
Hams, and all other dried or smoked meats, including sausages other than in tins - per lb.	0	0	1
Hay and chaff - per 100 lbs.	0	0	5
Honey - per lb.	0	0	2½
Hoops, iron - per 112 lbs.	0	0	5
Hoops, wood - per 1,000	0	6	3
Horses—stallions under fourteen and a half hands in height - per head	20	16	8
Horses, all others - per head	1	9	2
Isinglass - per lb.	0	0	2½
Lard - per lb.	0	0	0½
*Lumber, of all kinds - per 1,000 feet board measure	0	8	4
Malt, liquor, in wood - per gallon	0	0	5
Malt liquor, in bottle - per dozen reputed quarts	0	1	0
Malt liquor, in bottle - per dozen reputed quarts	0	0	6
Matches in boxes, if in packages containing not less than 10 gross, - per gross of boxes of 100 matches each	0	2	6
Matches in boxes, if in packages containing less than 10 gross, - per gross of boxes of 100 matches each	0	5	0
Matches, packed otherwise - per 15,000 matches	0	8	4
Match splints, in cases containing each equal to 10 gross of matches of the ordinary length - per case	0	15	7½
Meats, preserved, in tins - per lb.	0	0	1
Milk, preserved, and compounds thereof - per lb.	0	0	1
Mules - per head	1	0	10
Muskets, rifles, guns, and fowling-pieces - each	0	8	4
Oats - per bushel	0	0	5
Oleomargarine and butterine substances - per lb.	0	0	1
Opium, including powdered opium for medicinal purposes, charas, extract of opium and bhang - per lb.	0	16	8
Oils, (other than gasoline or crude petroleum, when admitted with the sanction of the Governor-in-Council) which give off an inflammable vapour at a temperature of less than 73 degrees Fahrenheit, as ascertained by the test established in England by the Petroleum Act, 1879 - per gallon	0	12	6

* Spruce and white pine lumber to be subject to a deduction of 5 per cent. for splits.

Article.		Rate of Duty.		
		£	s.	d.
Oils, all other, including caster oil, gasoline and crude petroleum, when admitted with the sanction of the Governor-in-Council, (essential, medicinal, and perfumed oils excepted),	per gallon	0	1	0⅓
Paints, and paint stuffs	per 112 lbs.	0	1	0½
Pepper	per lb.	0	0	0½
Percussion caps	per 100	0	0	2
Pickles and sauces, in bottles	per quart	0	0	2
Pickles and sauces, in bottles	per pint	0	0	1
Pistols, including revolvers	each	1	0	10
Pitch	per barrel	0	2	1
Pork, admitted by the Comptroller of Customs as pickled	per barrel of 200 lbs.	0	6	3
Rice	per 100 lbs.	0	1	0½
Rosin	per barrel	0	2	1
Sago	per lb.	0	0	0¼
Saltpetre	per lb.	0	0	0½
Shingles, of all kinds	per 1,000	0	2	1
Shooks, per pack or packs containing shooks, for one puncheon or two hogsheads, or three barrels	per pack or packs	0	0	4
Shot	per lb.	0	0	1
Slates (roofing), flagstones and tiles	per 1,000	0	4	2
Snuff	per lb.	0	3	1½
Soap and soap powders, perfumery, fancy and toilet	per lb.	0	0	1
Soap, all other kinds	per lb.	0	0	0¼
Spices, pepper, and all seeds, except garden seeds	per lb.	0	0	0½
Spirits and strong waters; for every gallon computed at Sykes' Hydrometer proof of spirits of every description (except perfumed spirits) including naphtha or methylic alcohol purified so as to be potable, and mixtures and preparations containing spirits	per gallon	0	10	5
Spirits perfumed, not over proof, computed as above	per liquid gallon	0	12	6
Spirits, perfumed, over proof, computed as above	per liquid gallon	0	16	8
Where a person importing sweetened spirits, liqueurs, bitters and cordials or other preparations containing spirits in bottle has entered the same in such a manner as to indicate that the strength is not to be tested	per gallon	0	16	8
Spirits, naphtha and methylic alcohol, passed by the comptroller of customs as being not potable	per gallon	0	2	1
Starch, of all kinds	per lb.	0	0	1
Staves and headings—white oak	per 1,000	0	8	4
Staves of every other description	per 1,000	0	6	3
Sugar	per lb.	0	0	1½
Tallow, anti-friction grease, axle grease, and similar compounds	per lb.	0	0	0⅓
Tapioca	per lb.	0	0	0¼
Tar	per barrel	0	2	1
Tea	per lb.	0	0	6
* Tobacco, in leaf, if in packages not less than a hogshead of 800 lbs.	per lb.	0	1	3
* Tobacco, in leaf, if in smaller packages	per lb.	0	1	10⅓
* Tobacco, manufactured (Cigars, Cigarettes, and snuff excepted)	per lb.	0	1	10½
Tobacco pipes (clay)	per gross	0	4	2
Tongues, pickled, dried, or smoked	per lb.	0	0	1

* Duty on tobacco to be paid on the weight being certified, either by a sworn weigher and gauger or otherwise to the satisfaction of the Comptroller of Customs.

Article.		Rate of Duty.		
		£	s.	d.
Turpentine, crude	per gallon	0	2	1
Turpentine, Spirits of	per gallon	0	0	9
Twine	per lb.	0	0	1
Varnish and polish, not containing spirits	per gallon	0	0	9
Varnish and polish, containing any quantity of spirits methylated so as not to be potable	per gallon	0	2	1
Varnish containing any quantity of spirits any other kind, to pay duty as mixtures or preparations containing spirits.				
The article known as International Composition or Rahtjen's Composition, and any other article which, in the opinion of the Comptroller of Customs, is of a similar kind, to be regarded as varnish and polish containing spirits.				
Vegetables, preserved, in tins	per lb.	0	0	1
Vinegar, and substitutes for vinegar, containing less than 10 per cent. of acetic acid	per gallon	0	0	5
Vinegar, and substitutes for vinegar, containing 10 per cent. and more of acetic acid, and acetic acid	per gallon	0	2	6
Wax, Beeswax	per lb.	0	0	3
Wax, Paraffin and Mineral	per lb.	0	0	1
Whitening, except when imported for Manure	per lb.	0	0	0¼
Wine, the declared value of which is any sum not exceeding two dollars a gallon, and containing less than 26 per cent. of proof spirit as verified by Sykes' Hydrometer—				
in wood	per gallon	0	2	1
in bottle	per dozen reputed quarts	0	4	2
in bottle	per dozen reputed pints	0	2	1
Wine of all other descriptions, in wood	per gallon	0	3	4
Wine of all other descriptions, in bottle	per dozen reputed quarts	0	8	4
Wine of all other descriptions, in wood	per dozen reputed pints	0	4	2
Yeast cakes, and compressed yeast	per lb.	0	0	3

And at these rates upon any greater or less quantity of such goods, wares and merchandise respectively.

TABLE OF EXEMPTIONS FROM DUTY.

Animals, alive; to include only sheep, mongooses or ichneumons, hogs and pigs of every description, and poultry.
Animal charcoal.
Articles imported for the use of the pilot service of the Colony.
Articles passed by the Customs authorities as the personal baggage of passengers arriving in the Colony from abroad.
Articles passed by the Comptroller, subject to the sanction of the Governor, as imported for the official use of the Consulate of any foreign country or place: Provided that a similar privilege in respect of similar articles is accorded by the laws and customs of such foreign country or place to Her Majesty's Consulate therein.
Broken stone and road metal, of every description.
Bullion and coin.
Cotton seeds.
Fire engines.
Fresh fish and turtle.
Fresh meats.
Fruits, vegetables, and ground provisions, not preserved and not enumerated in the Table of specific duties of Customs.
Goods, stores, arms, and ammunition imported by order of the Government of the Colony.

Horses, baggage, and furniture of officers in Her Majesty's naval or military service.
Ice.
Lime of all kinds.
Machinery, comprising the following,—
Brick and tile-making machinery;
Iron cane-punts, iron bridges, and grating bars;
Locks or sluices for sea defences or water supply;
Locomotive engines and railway plant;
Machinery and apparatus and wire for Electric Lighting;
Machinery and Implements intended for water-works, tanks, and lamp-posts with their appurtenances, paving and kerb stones, and draining pipes, and such other machinery as may be approved by the Governor-in-Council imported by the Mayor and Town Council of Georgetown or of New Amsterdam exclusively for their own use;
Machinery imported for the drainage of land or for use in mining operations, or in the manufacture or preparation of the produce of raw materials, or in the manufacture or preparation of manures, whether imported for sale or on private account;
Machinery for saw mills, foundries, and factories of whatever kind;
Machinery for steam boats and barges, and plates, angles, and other materials and appliances for the construction of steam boats and barges;
Machinery, retorts, gasometers, and pipes imported for the construction of gas works in the Colony;
Pans, teaches, tanks, and other Vessels imported for use exclusively in the manufacture of sugar or for the storage or supply of water;
Steam-boilers, of every description, and steam-boiler plates and tubes; and
Steam-ploughs, steam-diggers, and steam-dredgers.
Manures, including nitrate of soda, plaster of paris, and whitening.
Materials and church furniture specially imported for any place of worship of the Christian religion in the Colony.
Molasses.
Packages in which goods are imported, except trunks and canisters, and except hogsheads and puncheons not containing coals, lime, wines or spirits.
Patterns and samples, subject to any regulations in that behalf made by the Governor-in-Council.
Photographs and engravings, unframed.
Printed books not subject to duty under Ordinance No. 14 of 1851.
Printing presses and types, printing paper and printing ink imported by or directly for the conductor of any newspaper or printing establishment for the exclusive purpose of being used by him in the course of his trade.
Provisions and stores of every description imported by Her Majesty's Government for the use of Her Majesty's Naval or Military Forces.
Salt.
Sewing machines.
Specimens illustrative of natural history; garden seeds, bulbs, and roots,; trees, and seeds and grains of all kinds for propagation or cultivation.
Telegraph instruments and other materials imported by telegraph companies and necessary for the construction and use of their works, offices, and stations in the Colony.
Uniforms, arms, ammunition, Accoutrements, and prizes imported by and for the use of Her Majesty's Naval or Military forces, or the Colonial Militia, or any volunteer force or rifle association sanctioned by the Governor.
Wines, spirituous liquors, and stores imported by and for the use of the Governor.
All steam and other vessels, locomotives, carriages, rolling stock, rails, and such other materials and appliances not herein already exempted as the Governor-in-Council considers necessary for the construction and maintenance of a railway between the Demerara River and the Essequebo River in terms of the contract dated the 11th December, 1893 made between the Sproston Dock and Foundry Company and the Government of this Colony.
All stores landed from an immigrant vessel for the purpose of feeding the immigrants conveyed thereby in terms of contract of conveyance, and subsequently certified by the Immigration Agent-General to have been so used.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 134.

JAMAICA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1893-4.

(For Report for 1892–3 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 103.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
May 2, 1895.

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1895.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title-page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
103	Jamaica	1892–93
104	Victoria	1892
105	Bermuda	1893
106	Gambia	,,
107	Hong Kong	,,
108	St. Vincent	,,
109	Gibraltar	,,
110	Bahamas	,,
111	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
112	Leeward Islands	,,
113	Barbados	,,
114	Malta	,,
115	Zululand	,,
116	British Honduras	,,
117	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
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119	Rodrigues	,,
120	Mauritius	,,
121	Straits Settlements	,,
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123	Basutoland	1893–94
124	St. Lucia	1893
125	St. Helena	,,
126	Ceylon	,,
127	Fiji	,,
128	Grenada	,,
129	Sierra Leone	,,
130	British Bechuanaland	1893–94
131	British New Guinea	1892–3 & 1893–4
132	Lagos	1893
133	British Guiana	1893–4

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.

No. 134.

JAMAICA.

[For Report for 1892-3 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 103.]

Acting-Governor BENGOUGH to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

King's House, Jamaica,
October 29, 1894.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship the accompanying Report on the Blue Book of this Colony for the year which ended on the 31st March last.

I have, &c.
H. BENGOUGH,
Administering the Government.

REPORT ON THE JAMAICA BLUE BOOK, 1893-4.

Legislation.

During the Session of 1894, the Legislative Council passed 41 laws, of which the following are the most important:—

Law 1 of 1894—"A Law to amend the Rum Duty Laws, 1878—1890." This Law, which was passed through all its stages in one day (6th March) was given duration until the 1st of April, 1894, so as to enable the Legislature to fully consider the question involved before making the change permanent. Its objects were to alter the mode of computing the duty on Rum by levying it on the proof, instead of the liquid, gallon, and to increase the Revenue derived from the Duty. Law 12 of 1894 re-enacts Law 1 of 1894 without any limitation of time.

Law 2 of 1894—"The Customs Tariff Amendment Law, 1894." This was also a temporary measure and was passed on the first day of the Session of the Council to raise the Customs

JAMAICA. 1893-4.

Duty on Ale, Beer, Porter, Wine, Spirits and Tobacco. Law 13 of 1894 re-enacts this Law, with certain amendments, without limitation of time.

Law 5 of 1894—" The Bankruptcy Unclaimed Estates Law, 1894," repeals Law 11 of 1871, and makes it the duty of the Treasurer to report to the Governor when any moneys of an Insolvent or Bankrupt Estate have remained in the Treasury for 20 years or upwards, without claim having been made thereto. Under this Law any unclaimed moneys in the Treasury are to become part of the general assets of the Island after being duly advertised as directed.

Law 14 of 1894 —Confers on a purchaser of land the right of requiring a vendor to grant him a title under the provisions of the Registration of Titles Law of 1888, the corresponding right of the vendor to oblige a purchaser to accept a title under that Law having been provided for in the Registration of Titles Law, 1888.

Law 15 of 1894 amends the local Act 25 Vic. c. 10 on the subject, and enables a Magistrate to adequately deal with cases of cruelty to animals without empowering him to sentence to imprisonment, except in so far as the general Law authorizes imprisonment in default of payment of a penalty. A new feature of the Law is the provision that it shall apply to cases of cruelty to animals other than domestic animals.

Law 17 of 1894—" The United Kingdom Probates Law, 1894," provides for the recognition in Jamaica of Probates and Letters of Administration granted in the United Kingdom.

Law 18 of 1894—as regards Civil Procedure, is an adaptation of the Resident Magistrate's Law of Jamaica, as a Code of Civil Procedure to the Grand Court of the Cayman Islands.

As under Law 37 of 1893 the Judge of the Grand Court (one of the Resident Magistrates in Jamaica) only visits the Islands twice a year to hold the half-yearly sessions of the Grand Court, provision is made by this Law for the Custos carrying on the work of the Court during the intervals between the sessions.

As regards the Criminal Jurisdiction of the Grand Court, it is put on the same footing as that of the Jamaica Courts. It is a Court of unlimited jurisdiction.

Law 20 of 1894—"The Public Cemetery Management and Regulation Law, 1894," empowers the Governor in Privy Council, at the request of the parochial board of any parish, to make the provisions of such Law applicable to any place selected as a cemetery in such parish.

Law 31 of 1894—" The Land Surveyors Law " repeals a previously existing Law on the subject and re-enacts many of its

provisions. A noticeable new feature is a provision for previous examination, before indenture, in general subjects and in mathematics. The age for entering into indentures is raised to 18 and the period of servitude reduced from five to three years. The Stamp Duty is also lowered on an Indenture from 30*l.* to 1*l.* and on a Commission from 60*l.* to 30*l.* The old Law, after laying down elaborate rules as to the making of surveys in order to establish boundaries, was silent as to the legal effect of a survey made under such conditions—the present Law deals with this point and lays down the course to be pursued to settle a disputed survey.

Law 34 of 1894—"The Sale of Drugs and Poisons Law, 1894" repeals Law 10 of 1881 and 11 of 1885, which were defective, and re-enacts them with amendments.

Law 35 of 1894 enables the Governor to remit in whole or in part any sum of money imposed as a penalty on an offender, although such money may be payable to some party other than the Crown. It is a copy of the Imperial Act 22 Vict. Chap. 32.

Law 36 of 1894 restores to the illiterate voter the privilege to have the assistance of the Returning or Presiding Officer in recording his vote, a privilege which was conferred on him by Section 21 of Law 21 of 1884, but which was withdrawn by Section 1 of Law 40 of 1893.

Law 37 of 1894 repeals the Agricultural Produce Buyers Law of 1890, which, it was found, had tended to fetter trade but had failed in its object to put a stop to prædial larceny by a system of licensing buyers of produce.

Law 11 of 1894 abolishes the tax on huts which the peasantry build on their provision grounds, at a distance from their dwellings, as places of temporary shelter and occasional occupation.

Finance.

The year commenced with a surplus of 91,031*l.*, and the revenue realized was 597,129*l.*, making together a sum of 688,160*l.* The expenditure, including 33,521*l.* for Sinking Funds, and 2,400*l.* for Redemption of Debt, amounted to 628,332*l.*, thus leaving at the close of the year a surplus of 59,829*l.*

The parochial revenues, which are devoted to parochial roads, poor relief, sanitary, and other local services, and are administered by the several parochial boards, produced 128,719*l.*, an increase of 5,109*l.* on the receipts in 1892–93.

The revenue specially appropriated for the reconstruction and maintenance of main roads under Law 17 of 1890 amounted to 31,800*l.* or 814*l.* more than in 1892–93.

The revenue on account of immigration realized 1,371*l.*, an increase of 696*l.* on the previous year's receipts.

JAMAICA. 1893–4.

The usual comparative table, showing the whole of the Treasury receipts in the year under report, and those of the previous year, is given below :—

Revenue.	1893–94.	1892–93.	Increase.	Decrease.
General Revenue.	£	£	£	£
Import duties	315,941	298,718	17,223	—
Light dues	2,259	2,357	—	98
Harbour master's fees	2,776	2,582	194	—
Rum duties	127,479	120,003	7,476	—
Licenses	779	785	—	6
Stamps	22,394	20,814	1,580	—
Tax on stock	11	134	—	123
Tax in lieu of School Fees	12,478	10,270	2,208	—
Tax revenue	484,117	455,663	28,681	227
	—	—	28,454	—
Non-Tax Revenue.				
Postal revenue	20,285	19,095	1,190	—
Telegraph revenue	6,087	5,734	353	—
Court fees	8,665	8,547	118	—
Fines and forfeitures	5,451	4,359	1,092	—
Interest on securities for sinking funds.	11,581	10,433	1,148	—
Interest from savings bank	3,348	4,362	—	1,014
Interest other than above	6,969	6,293	676	—
Interest, Jamaica railway bonds	6,774	4,557	2,217	—
Reimbursements	32,078	30,508	1,570	—
Miscellaneous	11,775	9,612	2,163	—
	113,013	103,500	10,527	1,014
	597,130	559,163	9,513	—
	—	—	37,967	—

Revenue.	1893–94.	1892–93.	Increase.	Decrease.
Specially appropriated Revenue.				
Main Road Revenue.	£	£	£	£
Land tax, Law 17 of 1890	363	340	23	—
Draft Horned Stock tax of 1890	915	936	—	21
Holdings tax	14,388	14,076	312	—
Spirit licenses	16,134	15,634	500	—
	31,800	30,986	835	21
	—	—	814	—
Reimbursement of Loan Expenditure.	105,995	—	105,995	—

Expenditure.	1893–94.	1892–93.	Increase.	Decrease.
Parochial Revenue.				
	£	£	£	£
Parochial road tax	50,169	48,520	1,649	—
Kingston streets tax	3,054	4,346	—	1,292
Parochial municipal revenues	12,290	11,650	640	—
Parochial general purposes	2,948	1,977	971	—
Poor rates	42,189	40,756	1,433	—
Sanitary rates	9,151	7,190	1,961	—
Fire rates	1,466	1,550	—	84
Gas rates	2,523	3,511	—	988
Miscellaneous	4,929	4,110	819	—
	128,719	123,610	7,473	2,364
	—	—	5,109	—
Immigration Revenues.				
Law 7 of 1878. Amended Law 14 of 1891.	824	6	818	—
Miscellaneous	158	36	122	—
Interest	389	633	—	244
	1,371	675	940	244
	—	—	696	—
Summary.				
General revenue	597,130	559,163	37,967	—
Specially appropriated revenue	31,800	30,986	814	—
Immigration revenue	1,371	675	696	—
Appropriated revenue	128,719	123,610	5,109	—
Reimbursements of Loans Expenditure.	105,995	—	105,995	—
	865,015	714,434	150,581	—

The yield of general revenue shows a net increase of 37,967*l.* and this is due to larger returns, chiefly in import duties, rum duties, stamps, tax in lieu of education fees, under tax revenue; and postal revenue, fines and forfeitures, interest on securities held for sinking funds, interest on Jamaica railway bonds, reimbursements, and miscellaneous, under non-tax revenue. Import duties and rum duties show respectively an increase of 17,223*l.* and 7,476*l.*, which is ascribed to a general activity in commerce; tax in lieu of education fees, an increase of 2,208*l.*, due both to the alteration in the incidence of the tax made by Law 34 of 1893, and to a large number of houses having been brought under collection, while the increase of 2,217*l.* in interest on railway bonds is due to payments made during 1893–94 which properly belonged to the preceding year. The only item showing a decrease of any importance is savings bank interest, which is merely apparent, the interest on certain investments not having been brought to account during the year.

JAMAICA. 1893–4.

Main road revenues, specially appropriated under Law 17 of 1890, exhibit a net increase of 814*l.*, due to large collections in respect of the holdings tax and spirit licenses.

Parochial revenues show a decrease in the collections of the Kingston street-tax of 1,292*l.*, due to the suspension of the special tax for streets improvement, under Law 34 of 1892. Fire-rates and gas-rates of Kingston also show small decreases, but every other source of revenue under this head shows a greater or lesser increase.

Immigration revenues are increased in consequence of payments made by proprietors of estates on account of two lots of East Indian immigrants received from transport vessels "Volga" and "Jumna."

The following is a similar comparative statement of the Treasury disbursements compared with 1892–93 :—

Expenditure.	1893–94.	1892–93.	Increase.	Decrease.
General Expenditure.	£	£	£	£
Charges of debt	79,661	77,650	2,011	—
Pensions	14,438	13,393	1,045	—
Administrative departments	49,181	45,899	3,288	—
Revenue departments	37,026	35,407	1,619	—
Postal service	23,520	23,402	118	—
Telegraph service	6,909	6,629	280	—
Judicial	43,829	41,210	2,619	—
Ecclesiastical	3,824	4,402	—	578
Medical	57,445	57,162	233	—
Constabulary	51,255	51,474	—	219
Prisons	20,751	20,164	587	—
Reformatories	4,772	4,836	—	64
Education	70,329	56,033	14,296	—
Industrial schools	1,237	1,272	—	35
Harbours and pilotage	1,755	2,214	—	459
Military	9,527	9,530	—	3
Coasting service	1,800	1,800	—	—
Steam to Halifax	292	708	—	416
Telegraph subsidy	2,000	2,000	—	—
Registration department	4,191	3,346	845	—
Registration titles department	844	627	217	—
Island record office	1,367	1,503	—	136
Government printing department	7,550	8,741	—	1,191
Jamaica institute	1,784	1,774	10	—
Board of supervision	417	446	—	29
Public gardens	5,401	5,479	—	78
Miscellaneous	25,655	11,596	14,059	—
Public works	56,201	82,666	—	26,465
Railway extension track	7,191	7,347	—	156
Lighthouses	1,166	1,051	115	—
Lighthouse Construction	1,092	—	1,092	—
	592,410	579,761	42,478	29,829
	—	—	12,649	—

Expenditure.	1893–94.	1892–93.	Increase.	Decrease.
Main road expenditure, Law 17 of 1890.				
Maintenance - - -	33,274	18,666	14,608	—
Interest on Loan - - -	—	3,576	—	3,576
	33,274	22,242	14,608	3,576
	—	—	11,032	—
Appropriated expenditure.				
Parochial roads - - -	50,070	52,402	—	2,332
Kingston streets - - -	1,110	905	205	—
Parochial municipal objects -	11,501	10,553	948	—
Parochial general purposes -	5,816	5,089	727	—
Relief of poor - - -	42,975	45,204	—	2,229
Sanitary appropriation - -	9,054	8,960	94	—
Fire appropriation, Kingston -	1,468	1,405	63	—
Gas appropriation, Kingston -	2,981	2,901	80	—
	124,975	127,419	2,117	4,561
	—	—	—	2,444
Immigration expenditure - -	7,677	5,103	2,574	—
Expended from Loans.				
Charges on conversions - -	—	3,913	—	3,913
Portland bridges - - -	16,598	12,432	4,166	—
Telegraph construction - -	21	233	—	212
Main road reconstruction - -	16,926	46,937	—	30,011
Jamaica bridges, Law 20 of 1892 -	20,853	2,647	18,206	—
	54,398	66,162	22,372	34,136
	—	—	—	11,764
Summary.				
General expenditure - -	592,410	579,761	12,649	—
Special expenditure - -	33,274	22,242	11,032	—
Immigration expenditure - -	7,677	5,103	2,574	—
Appropriated expenditure - -	124,975	127,419	—	2,444
Loan expenditure - - -	54,398	66,162	—	11,764
	812,734	800,687	26,255	14,208
	—	—	12,047	—

The general expenditure of the Colony shows a net increase of 12,649*l.* The cause of this increase is to be found under Education, which alone is responsible for an excess of 14,296*l.*, due to the operation of Law 34 of 1893; and under Miscellaneous to the extent of 14,059*l.* caused by the payments on account of the expenses connected with the Jamaica and Chicago Exhibitions. Other items represent small increases and decreases. Public Works, however, shows a large decrease, when compared with the expenditure of the year before, of 26,465*l.* owing, in a degree, to

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less actual work performed and to the purchase in the previous year of Desnoes' wharf in Kingston at a cost of 14,441*l.*

Main road expenditure under Law 17 of 1890 shows an increase of 14,608*l.* for maintenance and a saving of 3,576*l.* on account of interest on loan money the incidence of which has been transferred to charges of debt and paid from General Revenue.

Appropriated expenditure shows a decrease under Parochial Roads and Poor Relief of 2,322*l.* and 2,229*l.* respectively while all other heads show small increases from 80*l.* to 948*l.*, the result being a net decrease of 2,444*l.*

Immigration expenditure shows an increase of 2,574*l.*, due to the expenses connected with the transport of Immigrants by the "Volga" and "Jumna," but these expenses have been in great part refunded by the notes given by the planters under Law 14 of 1891.

Pensions.

During the year, pensions amounting to 1,869*l.* 17*s.* 11*d.*, were granted under the provisions of the Jamaica Pension Law 34 of 1885, and the resolution of the Legislative Council of the 23rd October 1889, while the pension list was relieved by the deaths of pensioners to the extent of 389*l.* 16*s.* 10*d.*

Debt.

During the year 180,000*l.*, raised in 1892–3 under the Inscribed Stock Law, for the reconstruction of parochial roads under Law 17 of 1890, was transferred to the General Debt of the Colony, and 50,000*l.* of the loan of 140,000*l.* authorised under the Kingston Streets Improvement Law 31 of 1890 was raised as a first instalment.

The Public Debt directly secured on the general revenue stood as follows at the close of each of the last ten years, after making allowance in each year for the sinking funds actually invested for the eventual redemption of debt:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
1884	1,243,899	18	9
1885	1,427,458	14	2
1886	1,478,790	3	8
1887	1,491,993	3	9
1888	1,502,684	9	8
1889	1,506,883	6	0
1891	1,458,221	12	7
1892	1,520,088	4	3
1893	1,523,944	2	11
1894	1,672,299	14	6

Of the above amount of debt on the 31st March last, 777,002*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.* was on account of the railway purchase, reconstruction and extension, and 126,500*l.* on account of the Rio Cobre Canal.

The following are the amounts due for debentures guaranteed by the general revenue raised on account of the several undertakings specified :—

	£
Kingston and Liguanea waterworks - - -	128,200
Kingston markets - - - -	20,000
Kingston gasworks - - - -	30,000
Kingston slaughter-house - - -	10,000

Legislative Council.

The meeting of the Legislative Council, convened by Proclamation of His Excellency the Governor, took place on the 28th February and closed on the 26th of April, 1893.

A new Session commenced on the 7th March, 1894, and continued beyond the end of the financial year.

Upon the death of the Honourable James Cecil Phillippo, the President of the Legislative Council, it was considered desirable that the office which he had filled should be resumed by the Governor of the Colony, and an Order of Her Majesty in Council dated 29th January, 1894, amending the constitution in this respect was issued accordingly.

As the result of the last General Election, the following gentlemen were returned as Members of the Council, and were duly sworn in on the 7th March, 1894 :—

Mr. S. C. Burke for Kingston and St. Andrew.
Mr. J. T. Palache for Manchester.
Mr. J. M. Farquharson for St. Elizabeth.
Mr. J. H. Levy for St. Mary and St. Ann.
Rev. Henry Clarke for Westmoreland and Hanover.
Mr. W. Andrews for St. Thomas and Portland.
Mr. R. H. Jackson for St. Catherine.
Mr. J. E. Kerr for St. James and Trelawny, and
Mr. T. H. Sharpe for Clarendon.

The Council met 30 times during the period from 4th April, 1893, to the end of March, 1894.

Public Works.

The total expenditure on Public Works of all kinds, including the cost of administration and supervision, was 158,720*l.* 3*s.* 10*d.*

The 870 miles of main-roads, the bridges, and the public buildings throughout the Island were maintained in good order and many improvements effected.

A new main-road in the interior of the Parish of St. Thomas was opened for traffic. This road affords an alternative route

from Kingston to Morant Bay and the East end of the Island, unobstructed by dangerous rivers, and has also opened up an important and rapidly improving district. It passes through an exceedingly picturesque country and forms an attractive drive for tourists.

Another important new road was constructed and opened during the year. It is the first carriage road opened between the fertile districts of Ulster Spring and the Black Grounds in the parish of Trelawny and the south side of the Island, and gives those districts access to the Railway at Balaclava.

The reconstruction of parochial roads taken over under Law 17 of 1890 was continued during the year, and a total of 972 miles of road have now been taken over as main roads since the coming into operation of the Law, and during next year the work of reconstruction will probably be completed throughout the Island.

The construction of bridges on the country roads, authorized by Law 20 of 1892, was actively pursued, over 20,000*l.* having been spent on these works, 17 bridges having been opened for public traffic and several others being in progress during the year. These bridges are of the greatest use in the rainy seasons.

Waterworks for the town of Montego Bay were completed and handed over to the Parochial Authorities.

The 666 miles of telegraph lines in the Island were maintained in fair order. No new lines were erected during the year. The Lighthouses at Morant Point and Plumb Point on the South side, and Folly Point on the North side of the Island were maintained with regularity and efficiency throughout the year.

Lands.

During the year under review, 175 acres of land in St. Thomas and one residence in Kingston were sold, at a total price of 112*l.*, and 9 new leases were effected, the rental realized amounting to 158*l.* 10*s.* per annum. No lands were escheated to the Crown or recovered from squatters, although interlocutory judgment wa obtained in respect of 50,000 acres forfeitable for non-payment of quit-rent.

11,332 acres of land were conveyed to the West India Improvement Company under Law 12 of 1889. The total acreage of Crown Lands at the end of the year was 77,901 acres. These lands are situated in the parishes of Kingston, St. Andrew, St. Thomas, Portland, St. Mary, Trelawny, St. Catherine, and St. Ann, and a great portion are fertile and well watered. Portions are well suited to the cultivation of coffee, chocolate, bananas, ginger, cinchona, annotto, &c., and mineral indications have been discovered in some places.

Most of these lands are unfortunately not now well supplied with roads.

Rents from Government lands during the year amounted to 1,120*l.* and 90*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.* was realized from the sale of lands.

Rio Cobre Canal.

The revenue earned during the year was 3,302*l.* 13*s.* 11*d.*, 183*l.* 18*s.* 7*d.* of which sum was on account of Banana plantations. The success which has attended the irrigation of bananas has induced largely extended cultivation, and a considerable increase of revenue from this source may be expected.

The cost of management and maintenance was 1,238*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*, leaving a balance of 2,064*l.* 0*s.* 7*d.* No new works of importance were required during the year, but an extension of one of the channels was commenced which will supply numerous small settlers with water.

Post Office.

It is satisfactory to be able to state that the receipts under this head again show an increase on those of the previous year, as will be seen on reference to the following statement:—

Period.	Postages.	Commission on Money Orders.	Commission on Postal Orders.	Miscellaneous.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1891-92 - - -	17,437 6 1½	335 2 8	335 13 9	224 5 11	24,100 19 8½
1892-93 - - -	18,260 5 8¾	307 6 6	401 13 3	183 18 4	24,966 14 9½
1893-94 - - -	19,429 3 1	354 6 6	431 14 4½	219 1 0	26,687 10 11½

This continued increase is further evidence that the Revenue of the Department has not been permanently affected by the material reductions in the letter-rates of Postage which were made in the year 1890, the rates on inland letters being then reduced by 50 per cent., and on packet letters by 37 per cent., and being now 1*d.* and 2½*d.* respectively. The loss of revenue from these reductions for the year under review, as compared with the similar period before the changes were made, amounts only to 260*l.* 3*s.* 0*d.* or 1·45 per cent., a result which justifies the wisdom of the reductions. These figures, it must, moreover, be pointed out, include the loss occasioned by other changes, as the revenue for the year has been also affected by the reductions which were made on the 1st of June, 1893 of the Registration Fee on Inland and Foreign Correspondence, the Re-direction and Detention Fees, and by the adoption of the minimum scale of charges fixed by the Postal Union Treaty on 2nd class mail-matter, *i.e.* post-cards, printed papers, &c.

The first-mentioned reduction has already resulted in an increase in the number of registered articles transmitted through the post, but not to a sufficient extent to satisfy the Postmaster that the

general public appreciate the safety afforded them by this system.

The value of inland postal-orders sold to the public during the year amounted to 21,623*l.* 12*s.* 0*d.*, exceeding by the sum of 1,431*l.* 4*s.* 0*d.*, the sales of the previous year, and now shows an increase of 11,130*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.* on the amount of orders sold in the year of inauguration of the system, an increase which goes to prove the usefulness of the system to the public.

The expenditure of the Postal Department amounts to 20,504*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.*, an increase of 105*l.* 10*s.* 2¾*d.* on that of 1892–93, caused by the increase in the amount of the proportion of ocean postage payable to the United Kingdom.

Two additional post-offices have been established, and measures are being taken to open a number of others in districts where the want of postal facilities is found to exist. The total number of offices throughout the Island amounted to 109 at the close of the year.

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company have continued to carry out the mail service with the United Kingdom and the British and Foreign West Indies in a highly satisfactory manner. Postal communication with places abroad has also been maintained by means of the steamers of the different lines represented in the Island.

The Inland mail service has also been efficiently maintained, a regrettable incident in the year's record, however, being the murder of the mail courier and the robbery of the mail in a country district. The perpetrator of the deed unfortunately remains undiscovered.

The mail-coach lines and the coastal steam service have been regularly carried on during the year.

It is estimated that the total number of letters and post-cards which were circulated during the year amounted to 3,292,029, an increase of 416,396, which is no doubt attributable to the reduced rates of postage, as well as a result of extended education.

Telegraphs.

The receipts from Telegraphs in each of the last three years have been as noted below :—

	£	s.	d.
1891–92	5,767	19	3
1892–93	5,813	11	0
1893–94	6,253	6	0

Thus showing a progressive increase, the number of messages having been 111,812 against 103,803 in the previous year, or an increase of 8,009.

The expenditure also exceeds that of last year by the sum of 269*l.* 17*s.* 10½*d.*, due to increases under the head of salaries of operators, travelling charges, and printing and stationery.

A new station has been opened at Green Island in the parish of Hanover; and the service generally has been carried out satisfactorily throughout the year without serious interruption.

Railway.

The gross receipts of the Jamaica Railway Company for the year ended 31st March, 1894, amounted to 74,923*l.* 18*s.* 11*d.*, and the expenditure to 56,431*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*, leaving a net revenue of 18,492*l.* 12*s.* 3*d.*

The receipts were made up as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Goods and Cattle	39,772	3	8
Passengers	28,718	10	0
Wharf	5,902	10	0
Miscellaneous	530	15	3

The number of train miles run amounted to 264,404, which gave an expenditure per mile of 4*s.* 3·22*d.* and receipts equal to 5*s.* 8*d.* per mile, leaving a net revenue of 1*s.* 4·78*d.* per mile.

The number of passengers carried amounted to 336,270.

Interest was paid out of revenue on First Mortgage Bonds to the extent of 15,814*l.* 0*s.* 11*d.*

Twenty-one and a half miles of Railway extension were completed during the year. There are at present 117 miles actually open to traffic.

Lands for Railway Track.

The track of the Montego Bay Extension comprises 724½ acres, of which 687 acres or 62½ miles have been acquired at an average cost of 38*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.*, per acre; that of the Port Antonio Extension (the acquiring of which commenced in October, 1893,) comprises 457 acres, of which 263 acres or 31 miles have been acquired at a cost of 45*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* per acre. There remains a total of 27 miles on both tracks to be bought and paid for.

Agriculture.

The total acreage of the Island may be taken at 2,692,587, of which 1,945,635 are returned as paying taxes to the Government, which may be divided into 177,497 under tillage, 499,655 pasture, 1,268,483 wood and ruinate. The acreage under canes continues to decrease, and is now less by 911 acres than in 1893, but the quantity of sugar exported during 1893–94 was 282,244*l.*, in value, as against 241,683*l.* in 1892–93, and the proportion of sugar

to the total exports of the Colony for the year shows a very slight decline, the figures being 14·3 in 1892-93 and 14·2 in 1893–94.

The acreage under coffee, on the other hand, has advanced by 973 acres, the total under cultivation being now 21,763. It is gratifying to be able to state also that the cultivation of ginger is again extending, the acreage under cultivation of that product being nearly double that of the former year.

Cocoa has been bringing good prices lately, and the cultivation of this useful product has thus been stimulated. There is an increase of the acreage by 315 acres.

In last year's report an advance of 1,700 in the number of acres under bananas was noticed. This year there has been a further increase of 2,300 acres, the total area under that fruit being now 16,929 acres. Fruit now holds the highest percentage of any of the products exported, as the table under the head of "Trade," which affords a comparison with former years, will show.

"Ground provisions," which form the staple food of the people of the Island, and are almost entirely consumed within its borders, have been more largely cultivated during the past year than at any previous period. In 1893, 87,936 acres were under cultivation against 82,777 in 1892.

Botanical.

The following figures, showing the sale and distribution of plants at the different gardens during the year under review, give some idea of the work annually performed by this department in the way of assistance to horticulturists:—

Hope Gardens, plants sold - - -	42,981
Castleton - - - - -	4,541
Hill Garden - - - -	992
Total sold - - - -	48,514
Hope Gardens, distributed free - -	4,094
Sent to Hope Gardens for distribution (from Castleton) - - - - -	15,070
Sent to Hope Gardens for distribution (from Hill Garden) - - - -	1,249
Hill Garden, distributed free - - -	932
Total distributed - - -	21,345

These figures show a considerable increase on those of the preceding year, and must be regarded as evidence of the growing appreciation of the advantages afforded to the public by the department.

Monthly bulletins, with a circulation of 1,035, convey information of a general character, and are supplied free of cost to all who apply for them.

The work of extending the limits of Hope Gardens has progressed very favourably, a considerable extent of land having been added to the area of the gardens, which has been laid out in walks and beds of ornamental plants.

Considerable alterations have also been carried out in the other parts of the gardens. The boys of the Hope Industrial School, which is now under the care of the Director of Public Gardens, have worked in the gardens, receiving instruction from the superintendent.

At Castleton the gardens have been maintained in good order throughout the year, and have been much patronised by visitors.

The elevation of the gardens is 580 feet above sea-level, and the average annual mean temperature is 76·2 ° F.

The main roads at the Hill Garden (Cinchona) have been cleaned out and kept in good order, and the gardens themselves have received careful attention at the hands of the superintendent.

Experiments in fodder plants and growing potatoes have been continued during the year, and practical demonstrations in the grafting of orange trees have been given by the superintendent to the peasantry in the neighbourhood.

An attempt is being made at these gardens to propagate the Assam Indigo plant, which may prove of value, now that a chemical dye factory has been established in the Island.

The preparation of rubber from the trees at Cinchona of Assam rubber (*Ficus Elastica*) it also receiving attention, but it has not so far been attended with such success as to justify its extensive cultivation.

The gardens at King's House have been carefully attended to during the period under review, and have been maintained in good order.

Vine culture is still receiving much attention at these gardens, 1,200 vine cuttings having been sent to various parts of the Island, and 1,800 been propagated. A course of demonstration was also given by the superintendent in the vicinity.

The Kingston Public Garden is also in good condition, although the lawns suffer considerably from the trampling of visitors who frequent the garden.

A large number of seeds and plants has been imported by the Director of Public Gardens during the year, and experiments in the cultivation and propagation of various products have been carried on.

The Library has received numerous additions during the year, and work in the Herbarium has also been carried on.

Education.

The following table shows the results of the past year as compared with those of the year before :—

Year.	Schools on Government List.	Schools Inspected.	Scholars on Books.	Scholars in Average Attendance.	Percentage in Average Attendance of Number on Books.	Class of Schools.					Fees.	Grants in aid, including Building Grants.
						I.	II.	III.	F.	Not examined.		
											£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1893-94	957	913	97,456	64,695	66·38	169	367	380	28	13	45 15 0	41,378 4 6
1892-93	912	867	92,135	53,983	57·50	143	339	379	1	44	6,649 0 0	34,724 11 0
Increase	45	51	5,321	11,712	8·89	26	*23	1	27	*31	*6,603 5 0	6,653 13 0

* Decrease.

The increase in the number of scholars on the books, while again very considerable, is not so great as in the previous year, the first after the abolition of fees, but this cannot be a matter of surprise. The Superintending Inspector of Schools, however, regards the increase in the average attendance of scholars as both "surprising and gratifying." This is nearly double last year's increase, while the percentage in average attendance of the number on the books (which is the measure of regularity of attendance throughout the entire Island) has increased by very nearly nine, rising to 66·38 per cent., or almost exactly two-thirds of the total number of scholars enrolled, a percentage higher than in any other of the British West Indies, and only 11 below the average in England and Wales. The predictions of schoolmasters and other persons that the abolition of school fees would result in the more irregular attendance of the children have been signally falsified and, as has been pointed out, the reverse has been the result.

The increase in the number of first-class schools, only partially counterbalanced by the decrease in second-class schools, may be regarded as very satisfactory in a year of transition like that under review. It is no doubt a correct surmise that the more regular attendance of scholars has enabled the teachers to do better work.

The results of the annual examination of teachers and students in training colleges show that the colleges have not been so successful as in previous years, only three students in the third year obtaining honours, as against seven last year. The percentage of those obtaining full passes, last year called partial passes, remains the same. The number of teachers who have passed the examination has largely increased, the percentage being 47½ against 27 last year.

The Government Female Training College at Shortwood continues its promising career and it forms an important and valuable part of our educational system. On the 31st March, 1894, the end of the financial year, there were 22 pupils in residence, which is the full complement of the college period. Arrangements have been completed during the year under review for the removal at an early date of the Mico Training Institution to a more suitable site outside Kingston, where proper attention can be given to instruction in agriculture, and the present premises have been purchased by the Government for the purposes of an elementary school to be established under the auspices of the Board of Education, in which manual training will form a prominent feature and it is intended that it shall be a model school in every respect.

At the usual examination of pupil teachers and pupils at elementary schools who voluntarily presented themselves for examination, 735 candidates were examined, or an increase of 63 on the previous year, and the percentage of passes was 51, as against 42 last year.

The revised code prepared by the Board of Education took effect on the 10th August, and although a good deal of alarm was

at first felt by teachers at its probable effect on their positions and income, experience of its working has apparently convinced most of them that their apprehensions were groundless.

The Board of Education, under the Elementary Education Law of 1892, held its meetings regularly throughout the year, and in addition to the revision of the code of regulations of the Education Department already mentioned, other useful work has been the outcome of their labours.

A change in the age limit of children attending school was made by the Legislature during the period under review, and scholars under the age of 16 (of the same sex as the teacher) may now, up to the end of 1897, be admitted to, and retained in elementary schools, but they are in no way recognized by the Government. Provision was also included in the same law to enable children attaining the maximum age limit more than six months after any inspection to remain in the school till the next inspection, provided that takes place at the usual time.

The industrial schools under the charge of the Superintending Inspector have been satisfactorily carried on during the year.

The proposal, referred to in last year's Report, to place the Hope Industrial School under the care of the Botanical Department has been carried out, instruction in carpentry being abandoned, and attention wholly devoted to the training of the boys (who now number 32) in practical agriculture and gardening, in addition, of course, to ordinary school-work.

The Shortwood Industrial School for Girls, which numbered 28 children on its books at the end of the financial year, continues to do well. The training of the children is mainly devoted to useful domestic work.

The Roman Catholic Industrial Schools at "Alpha Cottage" maintain their reputation for excellent and successful management The course of instruction at the schools (which provide for 42 boys and 49 girls) embraces garden and field labour for the former, and washing, cooking, and other domestic work for the latter, while the Superintending Inspector speaks highly of the result of the schools' examination.

The Belmont Orphanage, which was opened in the year preceding that under review, providing accommodation for a dozen young children, is also doing good work in its necessarily limited sphere.

Immigration.

Applications were received for 500 immigrants, but owing to an unfavourable recruiting season in India, the full complement could not be obtained; 486 souls were, however, collected and embarked for Jamaica *viâ* St. Lucia in the ship "Volga" which also carried immigrants for that Colony. Unfortunately the vessel suffered shipwreck in entering Castries in St. Lucia, happily without loss of life, and the immigrants for Jamaica were shipped in the "Jumna," which arrived here at the end of 1893.

The number of immigrants landed here was :—

320 males,
128 females,
11 boys,
12 girls,
13 infants,

484 souls.

Of these six were rejected by the Medical Board as unfit for agricultural labour and the remainder were allotted to estates in St. Thomas, Portland, St. Mary, and Clarendon. Thirteen of the persons landed were immigrants who had returned to India from other Colonies and emigrated a second time.

One hundred and twenty-three births and 40 deaths occurred among immigrants in the Colony during the year, a percentage respectively of 5·97 and 1·94. Of the 40 deaths, two were due to suicide, the only instances known for many years, and three to accidents.

No coolies returned to India during the year, and only six passports were issued.

On the 1st January, 1893, 19 coolies were in prison, being 1·3 per 1,000; 3 or 2·1 per 10,000 in the Lepers' Home and 51 or 3·6 per 1,000 in the Lunatic Asylum. In regard to this large percentage of insane, the Protector of Immigrants remarks that many had been in the Asylum for a long time unable to return to India, and that, as several of their shipmates had gone back, the calculations are based on the diminished number of permanent colonists.

The deposits by East Indians in the Government Savings Bank on the 1st April, 1893, amounted to 10,705*l.* 12*s.* 7*d.*, a decrease of 3,348*l.* 15*s.* 10*d.* on the deposits for 1892. The Protector attributes this decrease to (*a*) the withdrawal of a considerable amount by the coolies who left for Calcutta in September, 1892, and (*b*) to the utilization of a good deal of capital by coolies in more profitable investments in land, stock, rice cultivation, &c. Of rice cultivation these people possess hundreds of acres, and an estate of 1,437 acres is owned by one of them.

The prejudice amongst the coolies against having their children educated in the native schools seems, the Protector states, to be gradually dying out, and a fair number of them are now being taught. The Protector adds that the children are trained to industry and are growing up generally to be expert and reliable workmen of better physique than their parents.

The average wages earned by coolies during the year have been in excess of the sums mentioned in their agreements and during the reaping of the crops good hands earn not infrequently from 12*s.* to 15*s.* per week.

The relations between employers and employes continue satisfactory.

Emigration.

During the year under review, 396 labourers emigrated from Jamaica to Colon and Port Limon, and 826 returned to the Island.

Government Savings Bank.

The number of depositors and the amount of deposits in the bank have been as follows in the last ten years :—

Year.	Number of Depositors.	Amount of Deposits.
		£
1883–84	13,601	350,546
1884–85	15,511	360,190
1885–86	16,320	363,292
1886–87	17,047	363,481
1887–88	18,510	393,250
1888–89	19,444	408,213
1890–91	21,747	423,011
1891–92	22,824	428,348
1892–93	23,902	417,978
1893–94	25,533	457,924

showing a very large increase both in the number of depositors and the amount of deposits, the largest, in fact, since the bank has been in existence.

In the above amount of deposits are included eleven deposit accounts for the following public funds :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Immigration return passage fund -	769	4	2
Constabulary reward fund - -	558	1	4
Constabulary pension fund - -	2	2	6
Sinking funds (6) - - -	965	5	4
Smith and Beckford's Charity - -	104	3	4
Turks Islands - - - -	388	19	8

There were also 275 accounts for trusts, charities, Chancery suits, Administrator-General and bankrupt estates, amounting to a total deposit of 36,578*l.* The remaining 2,247 accounts, representing 418,558*l.* are all ordinary savings bank deposits.

Of the total number of accounts open at the end of the year, 17,393 were for 5*l.* and under, and 1,206 only were for over 100*l.* The large increase, 1,318, in the number of the small accounts for whose object the bank may really be said to exist is very satisfactory, as showing that the bank is appreciated by the class by whom it is most needed.

During the year 3,734 accounts were opened and 2,098 closed, resulting in an increase of 1,636 in the number of accounts open at the end of the year, as compared with the number in the year before.

The number of deposits amounted to 29,676, and withdrawals to 30,239, representing 235,943*l.* and 208,192*l.* respectively.

The expenses of management and interest credited to depositors amounted to 15,311*l.*, while the revenue realised was 15,777*l.*, thus showing a net profit of 466*l.* on the year's transactions. The decrease of 287*l.* in the revenue this year as compared with the year before is only apparent and is due to the interest on some investments not having been received in time to be credited in this year's accounts.

Trade.

The volume of trade has been well maintained during the year under review. The total value of goods imported has risen by 216,313*l.* and now nearly reaches the figures for the Exhibition year 1890–91 when the imports were naturally exceptionally large.

The following table shows the gradual advance which is being made in the value of imports :—

	£
1883–84	1,568,639
1884–85	1,487,833
1885–86	1,325,603
1886–87	1,322,336
1887–88	1,695,605
1888–89	1,597,600
1890–91	2,188,937
1891–92	1,759,890
1892–93	1,941,481
1893–94	2,157,794

JAMAICA. 1893–4.

Of the sum shown for 1893–94, 2,136,113*l.* was the value of goods imported for home consumption, the corresponding figures in 1892–93 being 1,928 556*l.* or 207,557*l.* less than during the present year.

The items in which increase is most marked are as follows :—

	Quantity.	Value.
		£
Beer and ale	57,059 gallons	11,412
Bread and Biscuits	446,313 lbs.	3,682
Butter substitutes	164,820 lbs.	4,120
Alewives	3,131 barrels	2,770
Fish, dried	440,163 lbs.	4,401
Beef	971 barrels	5,424
Condensed milk	223,367 lbs.	4,208
Refined sugar	143,174 lbs.	397
Cigarettes	3,843 lbs.	800
Wines	5,423 gallons	7,262

On the other hand, there has been a decrease in the importations of the following :—

	Quantity.	Value.
		£
Flour	6,022 barrels	22,494
Meal	6,939 barrels	7,408
Butter	52,394 lbs.	(the value has, however increased by 4,818*l.*)
Corn	But the quantity is 26,565 bushels more.	1,800

The continued increase in the quantity and value of condensed milk shows that the local milk supply is not yet successfully competing with the imported article.

With regard to the decrease in the importation of meal and rice, it may be observed the fact of smaller importations of these articles gives evidence of greater plenty in the supply of local

products, such as yams and other food stuffs, while the increases shown by the Collector-General's Returns in the quantities imported of ales, wines, spirits, tobacco, refined sugar, cheese, and hams, show increased ability on the part of the community to indulge in the luxuries of life.

An increase of 5,722*l.* in the value of carriages imported for pleasure points to the same conclusion.

The following table shows the proportions in which, during the past three years, the imports have been drawn from the United Kingdom, Canada, the United States and other countries, respectively :—

	1891–92.	1892–93.	1893–94.
United Kingdom	49·0	51·9	55·1
Canada	10·4	9·6	8·8
United States	37·2	34·8	33·2
Other Countries	3·4	3·7	2·9

The following table shows the value of certain goods relieved from duty under the Tariff of 1867, and is given in continuation of former similar statement :—

	1883–84.	1884–85.	1885–86.	1886–87.	1887–88.
	£	£	£	£	£
Steam engines	12,604	9,268	10,704	4,287	4,569
Mills	2,516	862	257	564	722
Other machinery	6,618	2,509	3,553	2,442	12,569
Pans for boiling sugar	1,067	1	201	435	203
Pipes for fluids	4,358	2,365	8,205	3,472	3,028
Stills	312	72	1,102	998	345
Shooks of all sorts	13,520	11,388	7,149	13,649	17,974
Staves	10,890	9,052	3,376	3,822	4,952
Wood hoops	1,047	1,107	885	978	1,841
Iron, galvanised	8,649	4,758	3,132	3,036	3,147
„ other manufactures	1,109	—	—	—	683
Miscellaneous	5,242	4,854	4,339	2,606	4,443
	67,632	46,435	42,872	36,291	54,476

(*continued.*)

	1888–89.	1890–91.	1891–92.	1892–93.	1893–94.
	£	£	£	£	£
Steam engines	13,389	13,772	10,370	12,577	15,337
Mills	1,756	1,714	2,640		
Other machinery	5,570	20,761	13,624	6,265	9,023
Pans for boiling sugar	415	254	795	342	894
Pipes for fluids	2,531	8,395	3,748	10,020	2,461
Stills	277	443	868	683	1,376
Shooks of all sorts	9,973	4,296	7,863	19,078	21,163
Staves	983	150	3,606	1,514	12
Wood hoops	797	159	385	514	616
Iron, galvanized	5,582	8,238	9,868	7,330	8,814
„ other manufactures	659	1,271	857	131	1,222
Miscellaneous	4,961	9,037	9,313	10,364	10,622
	46,893	58,490	63,937	68,822	71,540

It is matter for congratulation that, while the imports of the Colony have risen by a considerable sum, the value of exports has increased by an even larger amount, and is higher by 315,882*l.* than in 1892–93, and even surpasses the figures for 1890–91 which have hitherto held the first place.

The following table gives the value of the exports in each of the last ten years :—

Year.	Of Produce and Manufactures of the Colony.	Of British, Foreign, and other Colonial Produce and Manufactures.	Total.
	£	£	£
1883–84	1,350,900	33,089	1,483,989
1884–85	1,181,203	227,645	1,408,848
1885–86	1,078,315	201,803	1,280,118
1886–87	1,334,465	174,542	1,509,010
1887–88	1,661,601	166,989	1,828,590
1888–89	1,501,660	113,164	1,614,824
1890–91	1,807,084	95,730	1,902,814
1891–92	1,628,777	93,319	1,722,096
1892–93	1,690,637	69,170	1,759,807
1893–94	1,982,596	93,093	2,075,689

Of the increase noted above, 291,959*l.* is the increase in the value of Island produce and manufactures exported, the remainder being the increased value of British and Foreign produce and manufactures re-shipped.

The items under which increases are most marked are :—

	Quantity.	Value.
		£
Cocoa	1,817 cwts.	5,832
Banana	983,243 bunches	133,669
Cocoanuts	2,192,359 (in number)	9,966
Ginger	1,301 cwts.	17,533
Pimento	18,009 cwts.	17,502
Sugar	38,716 cwts.	40,561
Cigars	3,513 lbs.	1,756

There has, however, been a smaller exportation of the following :—

	Quantity.	Value.
		£
Oranges	10,788,701	16,183
Lime Juice	16,653 galls.	694
Rum	237,052 gallons	44,933

The increased export of cocoa and ginger is peculiarly satisfactory, and may be accepted as indicating that the cultivation of the smaller products is being carried on not only to a greater extent, but with greater care, and consequently to the increased material prosperity of the grower.

The prosperity of the fruit trade still advances, although in oranges the out-put has been comparatively small.

With regard to the decrease in the export of rum, it should be observed that this does not necessarily indicate a smaller production, but may be due to an inactive market, in which case the rum is bonded in the island, awaiting improved prices, instead of being warehoused at the docks in European countries, where the dues are relatively higher.

The Island's exports were taken during the past three years by the countries named below in the following proportions :—

	1891–92.	1892–93.	1893–94.
United Kingdom	22·7	29·1	26·7
United States	50·9	54·2	57·3
Canada	3·5	2·6	1·7
Other Countries	12·9	14·1	14·3

The following table shows, for five years the percentage proportion which each of the several articles mentioned bears to the total export value:—

	1888–89.	1890–91.	1891–92.	1892–93.	1893–94.
Sugar - - -	16·3	13·1	15·6	14·3	14·2
Rum - - -	9·1	11·0	15·7	11·3	7·4
Coffee - - -	19·4	15·7	20·7	20·1	17·3
Dyewoods - -	25·0	21·3	18·7	21·1	24·3
Fruit - - -	20·3	29·4	17·7	23·1	26·6
Pimento - -	3·2	4·5	3·1	3·5	3·8
Other produce - -	6·7	5·0	8·5	6·6	6·4

So far as the past five years are concerned, the falling off in the percentage of sugar to the total export is not great, but at the present rate fruit and the minor products will in a few years occupy a still more prominent place in the list, while there is little present prospect that the out-put of sugar will increase to very great extent.

Police.

The actual strength of the Police Force on the 31st March, 1894, was 765 officers and men, being only five below the allowed strength. Of this number, 18 were inspectors, including the Inspector-General, 125 sub-officers, and 622 men.

The rural police at the same date numbered 811, of whom 214 were rural headmen, and 697 rural policemen.

The total strength of the regular force and rural police combined thus reached 1,676 men of all ranks.

Ninety-six men enlisted during the year, 43 were discharged, 18 were dismissed, and five died.

Pensions, amounting in the aggregate to 168*l.* 18*s.* 8*d.*, were granted to eight of the 43 men discharged, and gratuities amounting to 282*l.* 14*s.* 5*d.* to 19.

Charitable allowances were also granted to widows of deserving men, and these amounted to 35*l.*

The water police established during the year at Montego Bay to discharge similar duties to those performed by the corresponding force in Kingston, have proved of value.

A new station has been established at Cave Valley in the far interior of the Island, where a thriving populace has sprung up.

The following table shows the services rendered by the police as compared with the preceding four years :—

	1888–89.	1889–91.	1891–92.	1892–93.	1893–94.
Number of persons arrested on view and on information.	4,218	9,624	6,558	6,923	8,237
Number of persons apprehended on warrants.	1,873	2,499	1,645	1,802	
Number of search warrants executed.	102	153	116	102	122
Number of persons summoned.	14,018	25,427	17,588	18,896	19,212
Number of persons subpœnaed.	21,702	27,540	28,267	22,766	29,808
Number of seizures under revenue laws.	225	665	325	440	399
Number of post-mortems ordered.	388	627	460	432	594
Number of prisoners escorted.	8,796	15,312	9,638	10,570	8,599

Turning to the criminal returns, it is to be regretted that the number of murder cases has gone up from eight last year to 13 this year; of this number, however, nine only of the arrests occur in this year, the remaining four being remanents from the previous year. Manslaughter has decreased from 16 to 10, but there is again a lamentable increase in the number of cases of cutting and wounding. Last year the figures were 652, this year they are 684. This offence is attributed by some of the Inspectors to jealousy, while one officer considers that the somewhat free use of the knife or other lethal weapon is the result of the visit of so many of the male population to Colon during the attempted construction of the Panama Canal. To the same fact is attributed two disturbances which took place at Old Harbour and Cumberland Pen races, respectively, in which the authority of the police was defied.

It is gratifying to note that there has been a marked decrease in the more serious forms of offences against property. Of burglary there have been 14 cases in 1893 to 1894 as against 25 in 1892–93; of breaking into dwelling houses and stealing therein, 108 cases in 1893–94 as against 141 in 1892–93, and of breaking into shops, warehouses, &c., 89 cases in 1893–94, as against 109 in 1892–93.

There is also a decrease in the number of cases of offences against property committed without violence, though in the case of larceny of dyewoods and in simple larceny the figures are somewhat higher. Last year it was necessary to call attention to the increase of arson cases, under the head of malicious injury to property. It is matter for congratulation that in 1893–94, the number is 36 against 49 last year.

The police have at present under supervision no less than 1,060 habitual criminals, and it is to the credit of the force that so

large a number of persons is carefully watched; to their vigilance in this respect no doubt may be attributed the decrease in breaches of the law with regard to property of which note is made above.

Prisons.

The number of prisoners in all the prisons and gaols of the Island on the 31st of March 1894 amounted to 943, or a decrease of 21 as compared with the number in prison on the same date in the preceding year. The following has been the number in custody in each of the last seven years :—

On 30th September	1887	795
,,	1888	749
,,	1889	890
31st March	1891	893
,,	1892	988
,,	1893	964
,,	1894	943

The return given below shows the results of the year under review in comparison with those of the previous year :—

	Year ended 31st March,	
	1894.	1893.
Commitments :—		
To prison	3,935	4,566
To lock-ups	445	361
Total	4,380	4,927
Re-convictions	1,397	1,553
Deaths :—		
General Penitentiary	21	16
Other prisons	29	21
Total	50	37
Executions	1	1
Daily average number of prisoners in custody.	1,008	1,004
FINANCIAL.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Gross expenditure	19,344 1 7	18,613 6 8½
Gross earnings in cash	5,264 18 2½	4,890 2 10½
Nét cost of maintaining prisons	14,079 3 4½	13,723 3 10
Cost per prisoner	13 19 4	13 13 4¼
Estimated value of labour yielding no return.	5,086 7 7	5,098 14 2
Estimated value of bricklaying work and stone quarried.	4,235 7 11½	3,340 14 1¾
Washing and repairing (General Penitentiary).	1,808 17 4	1,375 8 7

The prison buildings are all in good order. During the year 20 additional cells for female prisoners have been completed at the General Penitentiary, and there is now accommodation in that prison for 98 females. The average daily number during the year was 81.

There were 21 deaths in the General Penitentiary during the year, of which eight were those of prisoners who were in ill-health when admitted to the prison, and three were the infant children of female prisoners. The death-rate was 37·84 per 1,000, based on an average daily population of 555. An epidemic of influenza prevailed in this institution during the months of July and August, but fortunately without loss of life.

There were 29 deaths in the other prisons.

The prisoners have been employed in the usual tasks, including brick-making, quarrying, lime-burning, and trade handicrafts, as well as the washing and repairing of clothes for the prisons and the outside public.

Religious services have been conducted regularly in the General Penitentiary by the chaplains of the various denominations attached to the prison, and in the St. Catherine, Falmouth, and Hanover District Prisons, and also in the Middlesex and Surrey County Gaol. In the Port Antonio and Black River Short Term Prisons no regular provision for this service exists, but prayers are read by the officers of the institutions.

School was held regularly in the General Penitentiary and the St. Catherine and Falmouth District Prisons.

Discipline has been well maintained in the Prisons, and the mark system continues to work satisfactorily at the General Penitentiary.

Vital Statistics.

The natural increase of population during the year under notice was 12,480, being a rate of increase of 19·5 per 1,000 persons living. The corresponding rate during the previous year was 16·8 per 1,000. Calculating from this basis, the estimated population at the 31st March 1894 was 672,762, while the mean population for the year is estimated at 667,554, which are the figures on which the marriage, birth, and death-rates are based.

The number of marriages recorded during the year was 3,734 or 5·5 of the population. The rate last year was 5·1, the number of marriages being 385 less.

The marriage returns show that there is a continued decrease in the number of illiterate persons signing the register. Last year the percentage was 52·6; this year it is 52.

The number of births during the year was 27,365 or 2,890 more than during last year. The percentage is 40·6 to each 1,000 of mean population. Of the 27,365 births 16,596 were illegitimate, the rate per 100 births being 60·6—figures which, it is to be regretted, show no improvement in this respect.

The deaths recorded were 14,885 in number, the rate per 1,000 of mean population being 22·1. Infant mortality continues

JAMAICA. 1893–4.

abnormally high. Of the number of deaths given above 6,355 were those of children under five years of age, or 42·7 per cent.

In the Cayman Islands, with a population of 3,725, the number of births was 187, of marriages, 41, and of deaths, 54.

General.

The material welfare of the people of this Colony continues to improve and the Customs returns for the year under review show evidence of this in the increase in the consumption of what may be regarded in the West Indies as the luxuries of life.

From the reports of the collectors of revenue in the several parishes it is gratifying also to learn that the houses of the peasantry seem to have more attention from their owners, and in one parish it is thought worthy of remark that "the small flower garden which "is seen before almost every house in the country tends to show "that civilization is on the increase." And the people are said to be steadily improving in the erection of a better kind of house.

A side light is thrown on the educational progress of the masses by consulting the statistics of the Public Library in Kingston, the capital of the Island. The record of the readers in the library shows in 1892–93 an increase of 36 per cent. over 1891–92, this year an increase of 44 per cent. over 1892–93 and an increase of 97 per cent. over 1891–92. In the year 1892–93 there were 16,030 readers and this year 23,101 readers, an increase of 7,071.

As the Jamaica Militia has been referred to in previous reports, it may be mentioned here that an important step towards increasing its efficiency and usefulness was taken during this year by placing the force for the purposes of training and discipline under the Senior Military Officer. The force now consists of 560 men of all ranks and the General Officer commanding the troops in his last annual report stated that he "has personally inspected the several companies "and considered that they are in a fair state of efficiency."

The general prosperity of the Colony has been fully maintained during the year, the value of property has much increased and the financial reputation of the Island is shown by the high price at which its securities are quoted in the London Money Market. That the great advantages and attractions which Jamaica offers as a winter resort are becoming year by year better known and appreciated is shown by the increasing number of visitors to the Island.

The health of the community has continued excellent during the year.

H. BENGOUGH,
Administering the Government of Jamaica.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 122.

LABUAN.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1893.

(For Report for 1892 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 93.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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1895.

[C.—7629.-5.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
89	Basutoland	1892–93
90	Ceylon	1892
91	Zululand	,,
92	Mauritius	,,
93	Labuan	,,
94	British Honduras	,,
95	Lagos	,,
96	Sierra Leone	,,
97	Fiji	,,
98	Rodrigues	,,
99	St. Helena	,,
100	British Bechuanaland	1892–93
101	British Guiana	,,
102	Newfoundland	1892
103	Jamaica	1892–93
104	Victoria	1892
105	Bermuda	1893
106	Gambia	,,
107	Hong Kong	,,
108	St. Vincent	,,
109	Gibraltar	,,
110	Bahamas	,,
111	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
112	Leeward Islands	,,
113	Barbados	,,
114	Malta	,,
115	Zululand	,,
116	British Honduras	,,
117	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
118	Falkland Islands	,,
119	Rodrigues	,,
120	Mauritius	,,
121	Straits Settlements	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 122.

LABUAN.

[For Report for 1892 *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 93.]

Governor CREAGH to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House, Labuan,
MY LORD, September 22, 1894.

I HAVE the honour to submit the following report on the Blue Book for 1893, which I am forwarding to your Lordship by this mail.

1 *Revenue.*

The total revenue for the year was $39,734 and the expenditure $36,129, showing a balance on the revenue side of $3,605. The expenditure exceeded that of 1892 by $3,455.

2. *Public Works.*

A bridle path was constructed through the padi swamp to Bukit-Kalam. Corduroy Road was re-constructed, and the planting of shade trees continued during the year. Roads and bridges were kept in repair by convict labour.

3. *Legislation.*

The following Ordinances were passed :—

No. 1 of 1893.—To Suppress Traffic in Counterfeit Stamps.

No. 2.—To Limit and Regulate the Working of Cargo on Sundays.

No. 3.—To Define the Powers and Duties of the Postmaster and to Regulate the Despatch, Delivery, and Management of Mails.

No. 4.—To Provide for the Registration of Trade Marks.

No. 5.—To adopt the Indian Company's Act of 1882 and amending acts.

Ordinance No. 6.—To adopt the Indian Limitation of Suits Act, and amending Acts.

4. *Civil Establishment.*

The following changes took place during the year :—

1. Mr. W. R. Flint was appointed Acting Resident and Deputy Governor, *vice* Mr. E. P. Gueritz, transferred.
2. Mr. R. V. K. Applin acted as Port and Harbour Master and Superintendent of Police *vice* Mr. G. Ormsby, transferred.
3. Mr. M. Ponsonby was appointed Sub-Treasurer, *vice* Mr. G M. O'B. Horsford, transferred.

5. *Trade and Shipping.*

The Trade Statistics, being compiled from ship's manifests and information supplied by shippers and consignees, who are under no statutory obligation to furnish classified returns, only approximately represent the steamship trade of the colony. The boat traffic with the neighbouring coast ports, which cannot be estimated with any approach to accuracy, is entirely omitted from the Blue Book Return of Imports and Exports. The general depression of trade indicated in the subjoined table is attributed chiefly to the low price of sago, which reduced the Imports and Exports of this product to $63,806 and $142,023 respectively as compared with $102,758 and $205,367, the corresponding figures for 1892.*

The imports of cloth, provisions, and jungle produce also compare unfavourably with those of the previous year, but under exports, coal and sago are the only products that appear to have materially declined :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Number of Ships.	
			Entered.	Cleared.
	$	$		
1892 - - -	565,772	365,555	147	148
1893 - - -	518,414	247,399	143	143
Decrease -	47,258	118,156	4	5

The business and profits of sago factories have suffered not only from the decreased demand for the staple in the Singapore market but from the increased difficulty of exporting it. The

* Both raw and refined sago are included in the returns of imports, but the latter only, which is known commercially as "sago flour," finds a place amongst exports, all raw sago brought to the Colony, as well as the small quantity produced locally, being manufactured into flour by Chinese, prio to shipment.

only regular communication between the Colony and the Straits Settlements is maintained by steamships engaged in the North Borneo trade. These vessels call at Labuan both ways, but, as they occasionally return from Sandakan and Kudat with a full through cargo for Singapore, large quantities of sago and other produce which have been stored on the wharf for shipment have to remain exposed to the weather, at the owner's risk, to await the arrival of the next steamer.

To ensure the regular shipment of their goods, the Chinese and Native traders are endeavouring to engage a vessel exclusively for the local traffic, which they consider the only effectual means of averting the delay and disappointment to which they are now so frequently exposed. Most of the trade of the Colony and of the raw material supplied to its sago factories is derived from the North Borneo ports across the Bay. I find from the Customs Returns of Province Dent that no less than 69 per cent. of the merchandise exported from the Colony in 1893 came from the port of Mempakul alone; and the attached report by Mr. J. G. G Wheatley, on the sago industry of Province Dent, shows that the amount of raw and manufactured sago shipped from Mempakul to Labuan during the year exceeded the total exports of this commodity from the Colony. The development of planting and other industries in Province Dent, which has quadrupled the trade with the Colony during the last four years, continues to progress with steady, if not very rapid, strides; and, notwithstanding the restrictions placed on emigration by neighbouring chiefs, settlers are coming under the company's rule in increasing numbers and larger areas of land being brought under cultivation every year.

6. *Mines.*

The output of the Coal Point mines during the last two years was as follows:—

Year.	Tons.	Value.
		$
1892	12,004	58,681
1893	4,112	22,616
Total	16,116	81,297

The falling off during 1893 resulted from the suspension of work in the MacGregor and Ashby Mines. On the Coal Point and Victoria railway good progress was made during the year, and at the end of December it was anticipated that the line would be completed, and regular traffic commenced, before 1st February.

7. General.

During the year the Colony was visited by four British ships of war, and the United States cruiser "Marion."

Sir Edmund Fremantle, commander-in-chief of the China Station, arrived in the flagship "Imperieuse" in February.

In May, Sir Charles Brooke, Rajah of Sarawak, paid a short visit to the Colony.

The health of the colony has been very satisfactory throughout the year, and the erection of some new houses has prevented over-crowding and improved the sanitary condition of the town.

A local money order service with North Borneo was established, and also a direct money order exchange with Hong Kong and Singapore, but arrangements have not yet been completed for a parcels post service with those Colonies.

A simple system of signals, introduced by Mr. R. K. Applin, to notify the arrival and departure of steamers, and the closing and delivery of mails, has been much appreciated by the Chinese and native inhabitants as well as by Europeans.

In December, the German ship Carl Friederich (a derelict) was discovered and towed into port by Captain Kaston of the American barque "Georgietta."

On the 6th and 7th December, strong north-westerly gales unroofed several native houses, up-rooted trees, and did other damage to private property, and some roads and bridges sustained serious injury from an unusually high tide which occurred about the same time.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. V. CREAGH, Governor.

A REPORT ON SAGO CULTIVATION IN PROVINCE DENT.

The Sago Palm, from which is manufactured the well-known Sago Flour of commerce, resembles in appearance the cocoanut tree. The former is valued for its trunk alone, the nuts are useless, and the tree dies if allowed to fruit.

Varieties of Sago Palm.

1. There are only two kinds of Sago Palm which are cultivated, the "Rumbia Benas" (true sago), and the "Rumbia Berduri" (the thorny sago), also known as "Rumbia Salak." In appearance, both are the same, but on close inspection the stems of the latter, to which the leaves are attached, known as "Pallapa," will be found to be covered with bunches of thorns about one and a half to three inches long.

Mode of Planting.

2. Sago grows chiefly on damp ground subject to floods at certain times of the year. If grown in swamps, less sago is

produced and the trunks do not attain as great a height as when planted on clayey damp soil subject to floods periodically. Once planted, the tree withstands floods and brackish water, but in the latter it does not grow as fast and the trunks are small. Sago is planted chiefly by suckers sent out by the parent tree which are carefully cut off under ground. In swampy ground, the shoots are planted out at once, but in other localities the shoots are tied together in bundles and placed in wet, muddy ground until they have begun to send out roots, when they are planted out in holes 12 inches deep, a foot in diameter, and 4 to 6 fathoms apart. No earth is placed about the roots, but the plants are supported in an upright position by two sticks fixed on either side. The earth gradually fills the holes during rains and floods. One man with an assistant can plant 300 plants a day. After this, further attention is generally unnecessary for a year, and in some cases two years, when the jungle growth is cleared around the growing tree. Some planters regularly clear around the roots and cut away suckers if they are too abundant. Rumbia Berduri is preferred to the Rumbia Benar, chiefly because the wild pigs do not attempt to destroy young plants, on account of the thorns. In planting Rumbia Benar, fences have to be made to keep out the pigs, which are very destructive. Rumbia Berduri is also reported to produce more raw sago, but the quality of flour is the same in both species. Each tree produces from four to five pikuls of raw sago (133 lbs. = one pikul), being at the rate of one pikul per fathom of trunk. Both trees grow to the same dimensions, 24 to 42 feet in height, and one and a half to three feet in diameter at the base of trunk. The Sago Palm is not subject to any disease, but, if a deep cut is made at the base of the trunk close to the earth, the pith is attacked by large maggots, which gradually eat their way into the centre of the tree, and in three or four months destroy the whole trunk. This is a favourite way of paying off a grudge among the natives. The sago tree takes from five to seven years to mature, according to the nature of the soil. During the third year, the plant begins to send out shoots. These grow up with the parent tree and in time give out suckers. If these are allowed to grow too freely, they form a dense thicket around the mature trunks and give a great deal of trouble to the workers. Every year, each clump produces a large number of workable trunks. During the fifth year, the parent tree is ready to be cut down. In the meantime, the young shoots are rapidly developing, and in the seventh year probably three or four trees are ready, and so on, so that the sago tree once planted continuously supplies the planter with logs without giving him any trouble as regards their cultivation. The natives compare their sago plantation to a herd of cattle, and it would be difficult to reckon the number of logs that each clump may have produced in the space of 40 or 50 years. When the sago tree is allowed to flower, the pith begins to diminish, and, if the mature trunks are not cut down regularly, the whole clump gradually deterioratesand the trees become stunted bushes instead of growing to the usual height. Nothing

LABUAN. 1893.

of the sago tree is lost. The trunk supplies the sago; the leaves and stems are largely used by natives for building purposes, the former for roofs and the latter for partitions and walls of houses, which when properly constructed are very neat-looking and durable. The top shoot makes an excellent vegetable, while the trunk, when split in two longitudinally and the pith scooped out, is used as a boat to transport the raw sago which has been extracted from it. The bark when taken off makes excellent fuel, and an enterprising Chinaman who employs an engine for rasping sago logs uses this as a substitute for fire-wood.

The sago trade between Mempakul and Labuan is carried on by native schooners of about 40 tons, which ply regularly and in fair weather are able to make a trip every two days.

The following are the figures recorded in the returns at Mempakul of the sago shipped to Labuan since January 1890.

	Sago Flour.	Raw Sago.
	$	$
1890	23,483.72	10,350.32
1891	24,826.67	18,560.20
1892	101,327.06	25,304.59
1893	119,092.70	25,034.24

The latter portion of the year is generally the busiest, as the rains assist in the transport of the raw material from streams which may have become too shallow during the dry weather.

The present price of sago flour at Singapore is $2.55 per pikul. The Chinese traders buy the raw material at from $1 to $1.20 per pikul, according to the market price at Singapore, and, after allowing for the cleaning of the raw sago and washing it in the factories, there remains a profit of at least 50 cents per pikul to the Chinese manufacturers. The freight from Labuan to Singapore at present is 22 cents per bag of 115 catties = 150 lbs. A royalty of 6 cents per pikul is charged on sago flour exported from Province Dent to Labuan when the Singapore price is below $2.50, and eight cents when above that sum. On raw sago, a royalty of eight cents is charged to protect the sago factories. The sago trade is increasing rapidly on the Borneo Coast, and at the present time over three-fourths of the flour and raw sago exported from, and imported into, Labuan comes from British North Borneo ports.

Mempakul, September 15, 1894.

(Signed) J. G. G. WHEATLEY, Magistrate, Province Dent.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 132.

LAGOS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1893.

(For Report for 1892 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 95.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
March 1895.

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1895.

[C.—7629.–15.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions, have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
100	British Bechuanaland	1892–93
101	British Guiana	,,
102	Newfoundland	1892
103	Jamaica	1892–93
104	Victoria	1892
105	Bermuda	1893
106	Gambia	,,
107	Hong Kong	,,
108	St. Vincent	,,
109	Gibraltar	,,
110	Bahamas	,,
111	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
112	Leeward Islands	,,
113	Barbados	,,
114	Malta	,,
115	Zululand	,,
116	British Honduras	,,
117	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
118	Falkland Islands	,,
119	Rodrigues	,,
120	Mauritius	,,
121	Straits Settlements	,,
122	Labuan	,,
123	Basutoland	1893–94
124	St. Lucia	1893
125	St. Helena	,,
126	Ceylon	,,
127	Fiji	,,
128	Grenada	,,
129	Sierra Leone	,,
130	British Bechuanaland	1893–94
131	British New Guinea	1892–3 & 1893–4

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 132.

LAGOS.

[For Report for 1892 *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 95.]

Sir G. T. CARTER to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House, Lagos,
MY LORD, ... December 18, 1894.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book Returns for the year 1893, and beg to offer the following remarks thereon:

TAXES.

2. There has been no alteration in the Tariff as detailed in the Report for 1892.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Revenue.

3. The estimated Revenue for 1893 amounted to 92,730*l.* and that actually collected to 115,317*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.* shewing an excess of 22,587*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.*

4. This result is mainly owing to the Customs collections having realized the sum of 104,202*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.*, consequent upon a general increase of trade, whereas they were only estimated to produce 85,000*l.*

5. This gratifying result is unquestionably due mainly to the action taken by the Government in compelling the Jebus to open their roads to the Hinterland, and to the success of the Governor's subsequent Mission to the Interior, details of which have already been published in Blue Book (C. 7,227) 1893.

6. In order to show the marked improvement in the revenue of 1893, as compared with that of 1892, it will be interesting to append a statement showing the collections under the various heads for the years in question, though a portion of the increase must be attributed to the fact that in June 1892, an additional

duty of 4*d.* per gallon was imposed upon spirits, as well as an increase of ½*d.* per pound upon tobacco.

Head of Estimate.	1892.	1893.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Customs - - -	58,476 9 9	104,202 16 9	45,726 7 0	—
Harbour and Lighthouse Dues.	1,878 15 5	740 4 6	—	1,138 10 11
Licences, &c. - - -	2,461 6 1	3,279 12 3	818 6 2	—
Fees, Reimbursements, &c.	1,987 4 4	2,575 5 11	588 1 7	—
Postal Revenue - -	1,183 12 11	1,425 7 7	241 14 8	—
Rent of Government Property.	256 0 11	325 0 9	68 19 10	—
Interest on Investments -	1,414 11 11	1,728 7 4	313 15 5	—
Miscellaneous - -	746 8 0	975 19 7	229 11 7	—
Land Sales - - -	17 8 0	64 14 10	47 14 10	—
	68,421 9 4	115,317 9 6	48,034 11 1	1,138 10 11

7. It will be observed that the only item which shows a decrease is that under the heading of "Harbour and Light Dues." This falling off, however, is owing to the abolition of the Wharfage Dues, which took effect from June 1893, when the additional duty was placed upon Spirits. To counterbalance the withdrawal of this duty, an additional 1 per cent. was placed on the *ad valorem* duty, raising this impost to 5 per cent.

Expenditure.

8. The estimated expenditure for the year 1893 amounted to 101,320*l.* 14*s.* 10*d.*, and the sum actually disbursed to 101,251*l.* 5*s.*, showing a saving of 69*l.* 9*s.* 10*d.*

9. The statement of Assets and Liabilities on the 31st December, 1893, shows a balance in favour of the Colony of 36,670*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* as compared with a balance of 22,604*l.* at the close of 1892.

CONSTABULARY.

10. At the end of the year the Constabulary Force consisted of 563 men, this number being only four short of the full complement. One hundred and twenty-four men were recruited during the year, and, on the whole, the men obtained were of good physique, and were genuine Houssas.

11. The total cost of the force for the year amounted to 20,937*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.*, as compared with 14,926*l.* for the previous year.

12. It was decided in 1892 to raise the Houssa force from 250 to 500 non-commissioned officers and men, and the Civil Police from 170 to 220 non-commissioned officers and men—hence the large increase in the expenditure.

PUBLIC WORKS.

13. The estimated expenditure under the head of "Public Works annually recurrent" amounted to 4,670*l.*, and that actually expended to 4,254*l.* 10*s.* 7*d.*, showing a saving of 415*l.* 9*s.* 5*d.*

14. The total vote for "Public Works Extraordinary" amounted to 20,537*l.*, and the sum actually expended to 13,002*l.* 7*s.* 8*d.*, leaving an unexpended balance of 7,534*l.* 12*s.* 4*d.*, mainly owing to the absence of any expenditure on the proposed new Hospital.

15. Many important Public Works were proceeded with during the year, including a new Government House, more Officers' Quarters, and an extensive Customs Warehouse. The new Public Buildings in Lagos are all substantial brick structures, well cemented on the outside, and calculated to last.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Imports.

16. The general imports into the Colony for the year show a very marked increase in value as compared with the returns for any other year in the history of the Colony, the total amounting to 749,027*l.*, the year 1891 showing the next largest total value, viz.: 607,719*l.*; previous to that year the general imports had never reached a value of 600,000*l.*, the lowest for the previous ten years being 357,831*l.* in 1886, and the highest 542,564*l.* in 1885.

Exports.

17. The general exports show a corresponding increase, the total value amounting to 836,295*l.*; the year 1891, as in the case of the Imports, showing the next largest value, viz.:—717,643*l.* The previous records for the last ten years show the worst year to be 1887, with a total value of 491,469*l.*, and the next best to the present year to be the year 1884, with a total value of 672,414*l.*

GAOLS AND PRISONERS.

18. The undermentioned table exhibits a comparison between the statistics of the gaol for the years 1892–3, and calls for no special remark except that the number of punishments shews a very marked decrease in favour of the year 1893.

Statistics for the Prison, 1892 and 1893.

—	Admissions.	Discharges.	Deaths.	Escapes.	Executions.	Prisoners' Earnings. Indoor Labour.
						£ s. d.
1892 -	261	209	1	2	Nil.	1,052 8 2
1893 -	302	291	5	1	Nil.	1,033 0 6
Increase -	41	82	4	—	—	—
Decrease -	—	—	—	1	—	19 7 8

(*continued*)

—	Prisoners' Earnings. Outdoor Labour	Punishments.	Re-captured Prisoners.	Staff.	Sittings of Visiting Committee.	Number of Cells.
	£ s. d.					
1892 -	213 17 6	421	1	16	2	131
1893 -	200 16 1	256	1	19	2	137
Increase -	—	—	—	3	—	6
Decrease -	13 1 5	165	—	—	—	—

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

19. The Chief Justice has favoured me with the accompanying interesting record of the business transacted in the District Court and in the Supreme Court at Lagos, embracing the years from 1886 to 1893. While, on the one hand, the criminal charges show no tendency to increase, on the other, the civil cases dealt with in 1893 exhibit a marked increase, both in the District and in the Supreme Courts, the civil suits in the former court amounting to 812 in 1893, as compared with 270 in 1886, and in the latter court amounting to 200 in 1893, as compared with 86 in 1886.

Statistics of Central District, 1886–1893.

Year.	Civil Suits.	Judgment Summonses.	Criminal Charges.	Total.	Inquests.
1886 - -	270	4	450	724	34
1887 - -	286	7	509	802	26
1888 - -	261	17	410	688	24
1889 - -	368	35	382	785	13
1890 - -	365	66	464	895	21
1891 - -	482	107	353	942	21
1892 - -	566	161	442	1,169	19
1893 - -	812	208	417	1,437	21

In the Supreme Court of the Colony of Lagos.

Statistics, 1886 to 1893.

Year.	Suits.	Judgment Summonses, Interpleader Summonses, and Garnishee Summonses.	Motions.	Probates and Letters of Administration.	Total of Civil Cases.	Criminal Assizes.	
						Number of Cases tried.	Number of prisoners arraigned.
1886	86	4	25	23	138	76	104
1887	128	17	27	37	209	75	115
1888	107	18	41	30	196	76	104
1889	120	48	54	27	249	51	96
1890	111	43	31	39	224	91	104
1891	140	46	34	36	256	51	69
1892	160	65	45	41	311	64	117
1893	200	92	86	137	515	58	113

HOSPITALS.

20. The subjoined remarks in regard to the Hospital statistics for the year 1893, have been supplied by the Colonial Surgeon.

21. "The year 1893 cannot be considered satisfactory from a sanitary point of view; there was no epidemic disease, but the number of deaths amongst the European population amounted to 17, which is the highest death-rate recorded for the last 10 years, the lowest being 5 in 1890, and the highest 11 in the years 1883, 1884, 1888, and 1889. The number of deaths registered amongst the Natives amounting to 1387, as against 1383 in the year 1892. The statistics of Native deaths, however, cannot be relied upon during the years previous to the introduction of the Registration Ordinance, No. 5 of 1889.

"During the year 1893, 846 in-patients were treated at the hospitals, 48 of whom suffered from an infectious disease and were located in the Contagious Diseases Hospital. The daily average of in-patients was 47·7.

"Of those treated in the general hospital 88, or 11·03 per cent. died, and of the 48 in the Contagious Diseases Hospital, 10 or 20·8 per cent. This death-rate is exceedingly high, as the majority of the cases treated were of a trivial character. This can, however, be accounted for in a measure by the fact that many of the patients were moribund when admitted, being, in fact, aged starved paupers.

"Fifty-nine Europeans were admitted as in-patients during the year, forty-three of whom were suffering from malarial fevers. Three of these died.

"In addition to those receiving treatment in the intern department of the General Hospital, 5,329 out-patients were treated in the extern, and 4,093 at Ereko dispensary. Vaccination was

carried out as usual, the one public vaccinator being employed solely at this work, with the result that 18,754 persons were operated on, 11,045 of whom were known to be successfully vaccinated. Thirteen lepers had a more or less prolonged residence in the Contagious Diseases Hospital. The number of persons infected with this disease is increasing year by year."

EDUCATION.

22. During the year the number of assisted schools in the Colony has risen from 30 to 33, and the number of separate departments in connection with the schools from 57 to 62.

23. The number of children on the registers of the inspected schools of the various denominations is as hereunder :—

Denomination.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Percentage.
Anglican - - -	1,072	677	1,749	53
Wesleyan - -	365	168	533	16
Roman Catholic - -	366	362	728	22
United Native African - -	255	50	305	9
Total - - -	2,058	1,257	3,315	100

24. In the preceding year the total number on the registers was 1,845 boys and 1,146 girls = 2,991. There is thus a large increase of 324 children in the assisted schools in the Colony. The main source of the increase is the United Native African School, which was admitted in the number of assisted schools late in the year, and contained no less than 305 children on its register.

25. The distribution of the school children according to religion stands as follows :—

Religion.	Number of School Children.	Percentage of Total Number on Registers.
Christians - - - - -	2,348	70·82 (72·4)
Mahommedans - - - -	412	12·43 (12·1)
Pagans - - - - -	555	16·74 (15·5)

The figures within brackets show the percentages in the preceding year.

26. From the above percentages, it appears that the increase on the number of children in the State-aided schools has been chiefly drawn from the Mohammedan and Pagan sections of the community, but more from the Pagans than the Mohammedans. We have henceforth to look to those sections of the community for any large increase of school children in the future.

27. There were in the Colony during the year under review 60 Mohammedan Koranic schools, with about 1,400 children in regular attendance, and it is much to be desired that the Lagos Muslims could be brought to see the advantages of introducing English subjects into their school system—there are however not wanting signs of a removal of the prejudice which formerly existed in regard to this question, and in time no doubt they will see the advantage of bringing their schools under the operation of the Education Ordinance.

28. The financial status of the assisted schools of the different religious denominations is shown below :—

Denomination.	Income.	Expenditure.	Government Grant.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Anglican - - - -	2,637 5 5¾	1,998 0 5	540 7 4
Wesleyan - - -	773 15 10	738 18 1	200 2 1
Roman Catholic - -	1,255 13 8	2,777 6 10⅓	453 12 5
Total - £	4,666 14 11¾	5,514 5 4⅓	1,194 1 10

29. The excess of expenditure over income is all on the side of the Roman Catholic schools; this deficit is due to expenditure incurred on buildings and the salaries of White teachers, while only 45*l.* was received as school fees from 728 children.

30. There is as yet no adequate provision for filling up the waste in the staff of teachers in the schools, and, indeed, there is great need for teachers of higher intellectual and professional attainments.

31. The fifth annual competitive exhibition of school work was successfully held on the 16th December, 1893. The exhibits were fewer in number than usual, but the standard of quality was fully maintained.

32. Industrial instruction is given at St. Mary's Convent in the form of domestic economy, and includes plain needle-work, fancy needle-work, cutting-out, washing, ironing, &c.; some such work is also done in the girls' department at Topo, and cocoanut planting, together with gardening, is the only industry taught in the boys' department of the same place.

Lagos. 1893.

33. It is hoped that next year arrangements will be completed for working a Government industrial scheme in connexion with the "Hussey Charity," which has an income of about 500*l.* a year from trust funds.

General Remarks.

34. The condition of the Colony at the close of the year 1893 has afforded an ample justification for the active Interior Policy carried out under the present administration. There have been no serious complications with the Native Tribes, and there has been a steady flow of trade to the large markets, consequent upon increased security to Natives bringing down their produce.

35. The Jebu Expedition struck a very severe blow to the slave trade, and, at the time I write, slave-raiding has practically been extinguished in the Yoruba Country. Although it will be anticipating matters somewhat, it will not be out of place to record here that this result has been mainly due to the presence of European Officers in command of detachments of Houssas at Jebu Ode, Ibadan, and Sagamu, whose duty it is to see that peaceable traders are not molested on their way to the Lagoon markets.

36. The Treaty negotiated with the Egbas has so far been loyally kept, and the relations between Lagos and Abeokuta continue to be of a most cordial and friendly character. It has not been found necessary to place a European Resident in the Egba Country, but an intelligent Native resides at Abeokuta and acts as the medium between the two Governments, so far to the satisfaction of both parties. The Egbas have an intense desire to maintain their independence, and now that the ice has been broken and the Governor of Lagos is a welcome visitor to Abeokuta, I do not think any trouble is likely to arise that could not be removed by a personal visit, should the matter be of sufficient importance to justify such a step. There is no question, however, that the occasional appearance of the Governor in the more important interior towns will always be an important factor in the maintenance of peace and that cordial relationship between the Lagos and the Native Governments which is so essential to the commercial interests and general development of the Colony.

I have, &c.

G. T. Carter,
Governor.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 142.

MALTA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1894.

(For Report for 1893, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 114.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
15 *August* 1895.

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1895.

[C.—7847-3.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
110	Bahamas	1893
111	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
112	Leeward Islands	,,
113	Barbados	,,
114	Malta	,,
115	Zululand	,,
116	British Honduras	,,
117	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
118	Falkland Islands	,,
119	Rodrigues	,,
120	Mauritius	,,
121	Straits Settlements	,,
122	Labuan	,,
123	Basutoland	1893–94
124	St. Lucia	1893
125	St. Helena	,,
126	Ceylon	,,
127	Fiji	,,
128	Grenada	,,
129	Sierra Leone	,,
130	British Bechuanaland	1893–94
131	British New Guinea	1892–3 & 1893–94
132	Lagos	1893
133	British Guiana	1893–94
134	Jamaica	,,
135	Newfoundland	1893
136	Gold Coast	,,
137	Zululand	1894
138	Bermuda	,,
139	Bahamas	,,
140	Barbados	,,
141	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.

No. 142.

MALTA.

[For Report for 1893, *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 114.]

SIR A. J. LYON FREMANTLE to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

MY LORD, The Palace, Valetta, June 8, 1895.

I HAVE the honour to forward, herewith, for the information of your Lordship, the Chief Secretary's Report on the Blue Book for the year 1894.

I have, &c.
ARTHUR J. LYON FREMANTLE,
Governor.

Chief Secretary's Office, Valetta,
SIR, June 4, 1895.

I HAVE the honour to submit to your Excellency the following report on the Malta Blue Book for the year 1894:—

Finance.

The public revenue for the year was 301,858*l.* 13*s.* 9¼*d.*, and the expenditure 291,682*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.*; the excess of revenue over expenditure was, therefore, 10,176*l.* 11*s.* 5¼*d.* Compared with 1893, the revenue shows an increase of 10,701*l.* 3*s.* 5¾*d.*, and the expenditure a decrease of 13,310*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.*

MALTA. 1894.

Revenue.

The amounts collected from all sources, in 1894, are classified as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Customs - - - -	168,086	19	5
Harbour and Quarantine Dues -	9,522	8	9
Licences, Court Fines, &c. - -	5,849	9	9¾
Fees of court or office, payment for specific services, and reimbursements	22,142	3	11
Post Office - - - -	11,685	1	11
Railway - - - -	5,603	17	0
Water service - - -	7,626	18	10½
Rents (rural) - - -	13,496	16	1¼
Rents (urban) - - -	27,429	3	0¾
Rents on account of Charitable Foundations - - - -	3,991	10	10
Interest - - - -	26,424	4	1
Total - - -	£301,858	13	9¼

The increase in the Revenue is chiefly due to larger receipts from :—

a. Customs.
b. Licences and Court fines.
c. Fees and reimbursements.
d. Post Office.
e. Railway.
f. Rents of house property.

On the other hand, there was a decrease of Revenue under the following heads, viz.,—

a. Harbour and Quarantine Dues.
b. Water Service.
c. Rural rents.
d. Rural rents on account of charitable foundations.
e. Interest.

It is gratifying to observe that the Customs revenue, which in 1893 had somewhat fallen, again resumed, in 1894, its progressive elasticity. There can be no doubt that, so long as the population continues to increase and the Garrison and Fleet are kept up to their present strength, the revenue from Customs, which is the most important one in this Colony, will undergo no substantial reduction, but will more probably tend to expand.

The increase of the receipts under head "Licences and Court Fines" was obtained from the larger amount of Court Fines adjudged in the Courts of Judicial Police, in the Gozo Courts and the Syndic's courts, as a result of the larger number of cases which came before those courts. It is to be noted, however, that the revenue from Licences was somewhat less than that of the

preceding year, owing to a falling off in the number of licences to carry a gun.

As regards the head of revenue under "Fees and Reimbursements," an increase in the receipts over those of the preceding year was realised, chiefly by a larger amount of fees for the treatment of paying patients in the hospitals, of fees payable in courts of justice, abattoir fees, sale of badges, and by a new source of revenue accrued from the performance of services connected with sanitation, and sales from the Botanic Garden. Of the above, the revenue from abattoir fees is that which, being created recently, calls for more particular attention. The Slaughter House became a Government concern in 1891; and it is a matter of satisfaction to observe that, setting aside all other advantages, the undertaking is organised so as to be financially remunerative, the concern being more than self-supporting. The following figures show its revenue and expenditure for the last three years:—

	Revenue.			Expenditure.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
In 1892 - - - - -	2,979	12	5½	1,036	8	1
In 1893 - - - - -	2,806	9	10	1,093	2	3
In 1894 - - - - -	3,060	4	6	1,174	8	11

The Post Office realized an increase of revenue over that of the preceding year to the amount of 815*l.* 18*s.* 3*d.* This increase appears to have been brought about by the running of a daily mail between Malta and Syracuse on account of the Government, which caused a larger despatch of correspondence and consequent larger sale of stamps. The international transit rates received by the Post Office have likewise shown a tendency to expand.

The progressive increment of the Postal revenue is shown by the following figures:—

	£	s.	d.
In 1892 - - - - -	10,743	18	6
In 1893 - - - - -	10,869	3	8
In 1894 - - - - -	11,685	1	11

The receipts from the railway department continue to increase, owing to the efficient management of the department, to greater passenger traffic, and to the more frequent running of trains. In the year under review the revenue earned by the railway was in excess of that of the preceding year as well as of the forecast for 1894.

The following figures show the revenue received by the Railway Department in the last three years, viz.,—

	£.	s.	d.
In 1892 - - - -	3,750	19	10
In 1893 - - - -	4,751	18	8
In 1894 - - - -	5,603	17	0

The source of revenue next in importance, after the Customs, is that derived from the landed estate of the Government. As in previous years, the receipts in the shape of rents show an increase under the head of house property and a decrease on agricultural lettings, viz.,—

	Urban.			Rural.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
In 1892 - - - - -	25,804	7	11¾	14,283	18	2¾
In 1893 - - - - -	26,421	7	7¼	13,866	11	3¼
In 1894 - - - - -	27,429	3	0¾	13,496	16	1¼

The increase in the rents of urban property is due to efficient measures for eliminating the profits of middlemen and to the reletting of the tenements falling out of lease at the present market value. The decline in the receipts from rural lettings is chiefly due to the fall in the price of wheat and to agricultural depression, which does not as yet show any signs of improvement.

As already stated, the revenue from harbour and quarantine dues has been subject to a reduction, no important quarantine restrictions having been imposed in 1894. As regards, however, the Tonnage Dues or Harbour Dues, it is to be observed with satisfaction that no abatement of revenue took place in 1894, a fact clearly demonstrating that the number of steam-vessels which visited our harbour last year was not below that of previous years. The following figures show the amount of tonnage dues received during the last three years:—

	£	s.	d.
In 1892 - - - -	7,476	0	6
In 1893 - - - -	8,065	6	0
In 1894 - - - -	8,326	19	9

The decrease in the revenue under heads "Water Supply" and "Interest" is too small to call for any particular remark.

Expenditure.

The provision voted for the expenditure for the year 1894 amounted to 328,120*l.* 4*s.* 0*d.* The actual expenditure, as already stated, reached the sum of 291,682*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.*, as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Charges on account of Interest and Burthens	18,210	10	9½
Pensions	14,146	4	8
The Governor and Legislature	4,899	13	1
Chief Secretary's Department	4,302	15	9
Receiver-General and Director of Contracts Department	2,691	4	0
Customs and Port Department	10,204	6	10
Audit Department	1,414	19	0
Printing office	1,114	13	10
Railway Department	5,009	15	9
Legal Department	18,665	17	10
Police	42,578	19	4
Prisons	3,599	7	5
Charitable Institutions, including Monte di Pietà	42,341	3	5
Education	20,667	7	5
Post Office	10,856	17	11
Ecclesiastical Expenditure	1,227	7	10
Military Expenditure	5,000	0	0
Miscellaneous Services	10,463	10	1
Superintendent of Works Department	6,759	11	2
Public Works Recurrent	56,213	13	2½
Public Works Extraordinary	11,314	3	0
	£291,682	2	4

The expenditure for the last three years was as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
In 1892 (13 months, including December 1891)	297,371	4	11¼
In 1893	304,992	13	0
In 1894	291,682	2	4

The heads of service under which increased expenditure was incurred in 1894 are the following:—

(*a.*) The Governor and Legislature,
(*b.*) Legal Departments,
(*c.*) Police Department,
(*d.*) Charitable Institutions,
(*e.*) Education.

The principal causes of such increased expenditure were, under the first three items, (*a*) the frequent elections for seats vacated by

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members of the Council of Government, (*b*) the creation of a new office of Notary to the Government, (with the arrangement, however, that the fees are now paid into the public revenue), and a larger expenditure incurred in connection with criminal trials; and (*c*) the larger quantity of uniform clothing and bedding issued to the Police Force, the allowances payable to the Assistant Superintendents in lieu of uniforms granted during the year, and the several increments of salaries and allowances.

The Charitable Institutions, upon which about one-seventh of the whole of the public revenue is annually expended, cost, during the year 1894, 42,341*l.* 3*s.* 5*d.* In the previous two years the amount expended was as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
In 1892 (13 months) - -	43,521	13	2
In 1893 - - - -	41,015	16	9

The chief causes of the increased expenditure were due to the better standard of diet supplied to the inmates of the Poor House, the abnormal number of the patients in the institutions, and to the payment of bills for supplies of bedding ordered in 1893 and delivered in 1894.

The cost of the Educational Department for the last three years was as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
In 1892 (13 months) - - -	21,329	12	9
In 1893 - - - -	20,369	15	2
In 1894 - - - -	20,667	7	5

The increase in 1894 is, to a very small extent, due to expansion of primary or technical schools, the greater part having been incurred on behalf of the University and the Lyceum, where the fees payable by the students are admitted to be too low in comparison to the facilities afforded for instruction.

The expenditure under the other heads of service was below that of the preceding year, the diminution being attributable to the fact that the expenses in 1893 had surpassed the ordinary proportion usually spent under those heads.

As regards the Public Works Department, though its expenditure was actually less than that of the previous year, it would nevertheless have been much higher had all the provisions, voted for works in 1894, been totally expended. The provisions, in fact, voted were as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Recurrent works - -	65,213	13	9
Extraordinary works - -	27,681	6	0
Giving a total of - -	£92,894	19	9

Whereof the actual expenditure amounted to :—

	£	s.	d.
Recurrent - - - -	56,213	13	2½
Extraordinary - - - -	11,314	3	0
giving a total of - -	£67,527	16	2½

From the above figures, it will be seen that a sum of 25,367*l.* 3*s.* 6½*d.* remained unexpended at the close of the year, owing to the circumstances that certain works could not be taken in hand, or completed within the year.

The expenditure, under Ordinance No. V. of 1891, of moneys arising from the proceeds of sale of Government immovable property, has now become of such importance as to call for special mention. From the fund constituted as above stated, the following sums have, in terms of said Ordinance, been voted since 1891, and up to the 31st December, 1894 :—

	£	s.	d.
For the Railway - - -	16,099	11	6
Towards the purchase of the "Palazzo Parisio" (General Post Office) -	2,900	0	0¼
For the erection of schools - -	2,449	0	0
For the erection of syndic's courts, police stations and dispensaries -	1,293	0	0
For a municipal electric lighting installation - - - -	35,500	0	0
For improving property yielding rent -	300	0	0
For the erection of a hospital for contagious diseases in Gozo - -	385	0	0
Total - - - -	£58,926	11	6¾

The above undertakings are all considered to be remunerative. The investments either pay interest directly, or will cause economy of expenditure from public revenue corresponding to the rate of interest previously received from invested stock.

Public Works.

The works of importance which were taken in hand during the year, and upon which extraordinary expenditure was incurred, are chiefly the following :—

Towards the construction of a new abattoir, 807*l.* 13*s.* 0*d.*; the completion of the prison for women, 2,295*l.*; the improvement of roads, streets and bridges, 2,174*l.* 4*s.* 10½*d.*; the extension of water supply, 2,657*l.* 6*s.* 9*d.*; the reconstruction of moles in the great harbour, 696*l.* 19*s.* 5*d.*; drainage works, 593*l.* 7*s.* 2½*d.*; the improvement in buildings of charitable institutions, 1,061*l.* 10*s.* 5*d.*; and the improvements in the cemeteries, 506*l.* 2*s.* 0*d.*

Civil Establishments.

During the temporary absence of your Excellency, Major General C. B. Knowles, C. B., was appointed, and acted as Deputy-Governor from 27th August to the 7th October.

Sir Joseph Carbone, K.C.M.G., LL.D., (now Chief Justice) acted as Chief Secretary to Government during my absence from these Islands, from the 18th July to the 7th September, the ordinary duties of his office as Crown Advocate having been performed by Alfredo Naudi, Esq., LL.D., the present Crown Advocate.

Legislation.

Five legal enactments were passed in the Session of 1894, the most important of which are the following:—

Ordinance No. IV.

"To Amend Article 384 of the Criminal Laws."

The circumstances that gave rise to the passing of this Ordinance are briefly as follows:

Two men were brought before Her Majesty's Criminal Court for trial on an indictment charging them with theft, accompanied with wilful homicide, and, as soon as they were placed at the bar, one of them, feigning insanity, behaved in such a manner as to make it appear impossible to the judges to proceed with the trial That he was not labouring under any form of mental derangement was ascertained by a Medical Board subsequently appointed to examine him. But as, when ordered to be placed again at the bar for his arraignment, he behaved as he had done on his first appearance, notwithstanding the measures taken by the Court under Article 384 of the Criminal laws, authorizing any measure that the insubordination of the accused may render necessary, the trial was again put off. The judges requested that the law might be amended in the sense of giving power to the Court to proceed with the trial in the absence of the accused, when such absence became a necessary consequence of his misconduct.

In suggesting the above amendment, the sitting judges stated their opinion that, on a statement of the late Sir James Fitzjames Stephen, in his Digest of the Law of Criminal Procedure, to the effect "that if a prisoner so misconducts himself as to make it "impossible to try him with decency, the court, it seems, may "order him to be removed, and proceed in his absence," they would have been perfectly justified, even without an express provision of the law, to proceed without the presence of the accused; but as they considered it possible, at the time, to have the doubt settled by the Council of Government, they urged recourse to legislation.

An Ordinance was, therefore, introduced to amend Article 384 of the Criminal Laws in the sense that, "if, in any manner, the "accused shall so behave as to disturb order during the sitting, "and after having been admonished by the Court shall persist "in such behaviour, or shall repeat it, the Court may direct that "he be removed from the place appointed for the sitting, or, if he "be under arrest, that he be taken back to prison, and may "commence and continue the trial with the assistance, only, of "the Advocate whom the accused may have retained for his "defence, or, if he shall have none, with the assistance of the "Advocate for the Poor, or of any other Advocate appointed by "the Court."

When the draft was in the committee stage, amendments were proposed by the Representative of the Graduates of the University and by the member representing the 4th District, and the law, as eventually passed, restricts the power of the Court of removing the prisoner to cases where the punishment of death is demanded, and makes that power dependent on a declaration of the jury that the behaviour of the prisoner is such as to disturb the proceedings of the trial.

Ordinance No. V.

"To Repeal Ordinance No. XV. of 1893."

The object of this Ordinance is to repeal the Ordinance entitled "To obtain certain statistical information respecting the trade of "these Islands," which was promulgated by Proclamation, No. XII., of the 26th August 1893.

The repealing enactment was introduced in Council by the member representing therein the "Members of the Borsa di "Commercio of Malta"; it was opposed by the official members, but received, finally, the support of all the elected members with the exception of one, and it eventually passed on the 17th October 1894.

The reasons adduced for the repeal of the Ordinance were the inconvenience which, it was stated, had been experienced by some in the working of the law, inasmuch as the person who imported goods had to fill up a certain form which was not formerly required to be filled up, and because of the prejudice which many people, engaged in commerce, said the law would cause to local trade by diminishing the secrecy previously relied upon.

Although the provisions of the Ordinance which has now been repealed were not all that had been desired to enable the Government to obtain reliable information for the purpose of the compilation of commercial statistics, the repealed Ordinance constituted a first step towards progressive legislation on the subject. It is to be regretted that what appears to be a deep-rooted and well-sustained prejudice in these Islands against the compiling of correct commercial statistics should have brought about the passing of this repealing Ordinance.

Population and Public Health.

The population of these Islands is steadily increasing. On the 31st December 1893 it was estimated at 168,105. To this may be added 2,160 to represent the excess of births over deaths in 1894; and the estimated population at the close of the year, exclusive of the Imperial forces, may be put down at 170,265, an increase of 5,228 since the taking of the last Census on the 5th April 1891.

The number of births in 1894 was 6,714; of these 3,528 were males and 3,186 females, being at the rate of 1,107 males to every 1,000 females.

The number of marriages was 1,016, or 51 less than in the preceding year.

The deaths registered in 1894 amounted to 4,554, a decrease of 649 as compared with those of 1893, the death-rate having fallen from 30·9 per 1,000 of the population in 1893 to 26·7 in 1894, which is below the average for the last 20 years. Of these, 2,354 were males (28·00 per 1,000) and 2,200 females (25·52 per 1,000).

Education.

The Government educational establishments at present are an University, a Lyceum, two secondary schools 110 elementary day schools, 26 night schools, a school of technical and manual instruction, and a school for the training of assistant teachers.

From statistical information furnished by the Director of Education to the Senate of the University, it appears that the average percentage of attendance during the scholastic year 1893–94 was 81·3, and the average percentage of passes 92·5, which was considered satisfactory.

The number of children on the books on the 1st September last was 15,153, *i.e.* 801 over the enrolment of last year. There were still 5,761 children on the books of the schools awaiting admission for whom there was not sufficient accommodation.

This state of affairs is much to be regretted; but the Government is unable, with the limited means at its disposal, to progress at a greater rate with the policy it has recently followed of building new schools to provide gratuitous education for all. Bearing this fact in mind, the Senate of the University has again suggested the desirability of calling upon the, comparatively speaking, better-to-do classes to contribute more commensurately towards the expenses of their own education, and recommended that the savings effected thereby should be apportioned to the furthering of the education of the poorer clases in the elementary schools. The measure had already been brought to the notice of the Council of Government but a resolution thereon was rejected in the council by the unanimous vote of the elected members.

The net expenditure in respect to the educational department, after deducting the income received as students' fees, during the scholastic year 1893–94, was as follows :—

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	
University - -	3,197	16	1	or	37	12	5	per head.
Lyceum - -	2,304	8	4	„	4	15	7¼	„
Secondary School, Gozo - -	235	0	0	„	5	0	0	„
Secondary School, Valetta - -	120	14	11	„	0	17	4½	„
Elementary Schools	11,775	14	7	„	1	1	2¼	„

Total - £17,633 13 11, being about $\frac{1}{17}$th of the revenue, and $\frac{1}{16}$th of the expenditure, of the Colony.

The income received as students' fees amounted to 560*l.* 0*s.* 10*d.*, viz.,—University, 106*l.* 5*s.* 10*d.*, Lyceum, 208*l.* 0*s.* 0*d.*, and Secondary School, Valetta, 245*l.* 15*s.* 0*d.*

Imports and Exports.

The total value of the imports in 1894 was returned at 13,773,783*l.*, showing an increase of 41,753*l.* over that in 1893.

The value of the imports from the United Kingdom was 171,154*l.*, or 18,654*l.* less than last year.

The total value of the exports amounted to 13,086,747*l.* against 12,275,141*l.* in the preceding year.

The exports to the United Kingdom were valued at 2,737,744*l.*, being 861,342*l.* more than in 1893.

Of the total value of exports, 2,734,708*l.*, proceeded in the same vessels.

There are no means of officially stating what amount of articles of local produce and manufacture is exported, but the quantity is apparently very small.

Shipping.

The number of vessels entered at this Port in 1894 was as follows :—

Steam-vessels, 2,826, with a tonnage of 3,510,012.
Sailing-vessels, 1,300, „ „ 87,980.

The corresponding arrivals in the preceding year were :—

Steam-vessels, 2,670, with a tonnage of 3,381,380.
Sailing-vessels, 1,181, „ „ 90,905.

There has therefore been an increase of 156 steamers and 128,632 tons over 1893, and also an increase of 119 sailing vessels with a decrease of 2,925 tons.

There has been a corresponding increase of 261*l.* 13*s.* 9*d.* in the revenue under "Port Dues and Tonnage Dues," which amounted to 8,326*l.* 19*s.* 9*d.* against 8,065*l.* 6*s.* 0*d.* in the preceding year.

Currency.

The maximum rate of exchange with London in 1894 remained the same as in the preceding year, viz.,—

On demand, 10*s.* per 100*l.*
At three days' sight, 8*s.* per 100*l.*
At 30 days' sight, 5*s.* per 100*l.*
At 60 days' sight, 2*s.* 6*d.* per 100*l.*
90 days' sight, at par.

The banking companies doing business in Malta are "The Banco di Malta," "The Anglo-Maltese Bank," and "The Anglo-Egyptian Bank." There are, however, other important private banking firms.

The amount of coin in circulation is estimated at 385,000*l.*, and the circulation of notes, which is at present restricted to the notes of the two former banks, is stated to be about 30,000*l.*, but it is not subject to any Government control.

To accord facilities to the commercial community, the heads of Government departments were authorized to receive payments by certified cheques.

The Government and the commercial community, with the exception of a few merchants at the Marina and in the villages, kee accounts in sterling.

Agriculture.

The almost total failure of the potato crop in 1894, due to disease, and the low prices of corn and other produce, have caused unusual depression among the agricultural class, and lowered to a great extent the rental value of the land, which in many cases remained untenanted and uncultivated.

The loss from the potato disease is estimated at between 60,000*l.* and 80,000*l.* The prohibition of the importation of seed potatoes from Great Britain and Ireland has resulted in the importation of the seed from many other parts of the continent. There was little trace of disease in the winter crop. Great advantage has accrued from a general change of seed.

The Sulla (red clover) crop was good, and a large quantity was exported to Tunis, Algiers and Marseilles. There was also a good crop of oranges, the disease having been much less than in late years, but, as the prices were very low, the exportation was very limited.

Gaols and Prisons

The number of prisoners committed during the last three years was as follows :—

In 1892	7,648
In 1893	7,357
In 1894	7,116

The cost of the prison being, for the same years, 3,706*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*, 3,621*l.* 9*s.* 4*d.*, and 3,481*l.* 14*s.* 1*d.* respectively, showing an annual decrease both in the number of committals and in the expenditure, whilst the prisoners' earnings have increased from 760*l.* in 1892 to 950*l.* in 1894.

The Corradino Prison, which is on the mixed cellular system as regards criminal wards, now comprises 254 separate cells and six wards, a new ward having been added for female prisoners.

The labour required from prisoners is various in character and the profits of the prisoners' labour are lodged in the Treasury.

There are in the prison two chapels in which religious services are respectively performed by a resident Roman Catholic Clergyman, and by three visiting chaplains, one of the Church of England, one Presbyterian, and one Wesleyan.

Criminal Statistics.

The offences reported to the police in 1894 amounted to 8,555 against 8,956 in the previous year. The number of summary convictions before the police magistrates was 13,718 or 1,488 less than in 1893. In addition, there were 881 persons brought before the magistrates who were either discharged for want of prosecution and of evidence, or dismissed on the merits of the case. The majority of these summonses were for minor offences.

The number of persons committed for trial in Her Majesty's Criminal Court was 147, of whom 36 were discharged and 111 were convicted. There were four cases of murder (with regard to one of which the crime had escaped detection for years), and two cases of manslaughter.

General Remarks.

During 1894 the trade of Malta suffered severely, not only in consequence of the general depression of the trade in other countries and of the general fall in prices, but also on account of the failure of the potato crop, which is one of the principal agricultural resources of this island.

The failure of the potato crop last year has increased the difficulties in the way of dealing with the present agricultural crisis. The seed for the Malta potato crop had been imported every year, and it is recognized that the seed imported in 1893 was in part unsatisfactory and did not germinate. Certain restrictions recommended by the Board of Health had the effect of causing seed to be imported from different countries and o bringing about a thorough change and renewal of the stock.

Two Ordinances were introduced in the Council with a view to assisting agricultural interests; the first of these Ordinances amends the old Ordinance of 1837 which establishes the tariff of dues payable on cattle imported. The dues under that tariff

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were payable at "so much for each head" of cattle; the amending Ordinance was framed to alter that system in the sense that the duty should be payable on an unit of weight. The other Ordinance, which was introduced "to make some provisions for relieving "agriculturists and owners of cattle from losses consequent upon "the destruction, in the interests of public health and without "compensation, of diseased meat" gives the Government power to insure cattle before slaughtering, so as to protect the owners against the risk of the animal being found diseased, and destroyed.

A vote authorizing the adoption of electric lighting as a municipal undertaking was passed by the Council, the provision of 34,500*l.* for lighting by electricity Valetta, Floriana, the Grand Harbour and the Three Cities being sanctioned, subject only to a satisfactory agreement with the military authorities as to certain details for the supply of electric light to the War Department buildings in Malta.

By resolution of the Council of Government of the 14th February 1894, a select committee was appointed to inquire into and report upon the further drainage works to be undertaken by the Government, and the funds to be provided for that object. The Committee was generally of opinion that a comprehensive scheme of drainage could not be carried out unless the Council of Government were prepared to sanction a loan of about 100,000*l.* This would probably be immediately covered locally, to the great advantage of the Island, as it would put in circulation among the working classes part of the large amount of coin known to be idly hoarded in Malta.

A vote of 6,350*l.* was also passed by the Council for the extension of the water supply of Malta.

A select committee of the Council was appointed on the 4th April 1894 to report on proposals for erecting a slaughter-house and to select the site required for the object of superseding the existing old insanitary slaughter-house, which still drains into the harbour, and which does not offer the necessary accommodation to ensure a compliance with modern sanitary requirements.

The railway has also been improved during 1894 The Valetta terminus was extended and a ventilation shaft made in that station The Hamrun station was enlarged and a waiting room and a carpenter's shop constructed. The two timber bridges near Porte des Bombes and the S. Salvator Bridge were rebuilt in stone. A new siding at S. Salvator station was completed and an overway near this station commenced. The object of the latter work is, to do away with a level crossing on the high road to Notabile. A vote of 5,000*l.* was also taken for extending the line by driving a tunnel under Notabile, and the work is already commenced. Votes have also been passed for an additional locomotive engine and for six more railway carriages.

Certain lands on Corradino Hill were sold to the Naval Authorities, their value having been settled by agreement and arbitration at a total of 22,439*l.* 17*s.* 4*d.*

The clerical establishment and the staff of the charitable institutions were reorganised (to suit the present requirements of the service and to adapt the standard of pay and promotion to the needs of the times) at the additional cost of 4,752*l.* 4*s.* 7*d.* a year, to which increments and pensions will gradually be added.

The erection of a new school for Rabate and Notabile was commenced, and the steps necessary for purchasing sites for schools at Musta and Zebbug were pushed forward.

A traction engine and pumping plant was provided for raising and carrying away sewage matter from localities not connected with the main drainage.

The planting of trees was extended with unusual vigour with funds voted by the council, and the permission of the Military Authorities was obtained for planting trees on the "glacis" of the ramparts of Valetta.

The health of these Islands in 1894 was satisfactory, the general death-rate having been 26·7, and that from zymotic disease considerably reduced.

I have, &c.

G. STRICKLAND,

Chief Secretary to Government.

No. 120.

MAURITIUS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1893.

(For Report for 1892 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 92.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
87	Falkland Islands	1892
88	Gold Coast	,,
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98	Rodrigues	,,
99	St. Helena	,,
100	British Bechuanaland	1892-93
101	British Guiana	,,
102	Newfoundland	1892
103	Jamaica	1892-93
104	Victoria	1892
105	Bermuda	1893
106	Gambia	,,
107	Hong Kong	,,
108	St. Vincent	,,
109	Gibraltar	,,
110	Bahamas	,,
111	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
112	Leeward Islands	,,
113	Barbados	,,
114	Malta	,,
115	Zululand	,,
116	British Honduras	,,
117	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
118	Falkland Islands	,,
119	Rodrigues	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 120.

MAURITIUS.

[For Report for 1892 *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 92.]

Sir H. E. H. JERNINGHAM to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House, Mauritius,
MY LORD, September 7, 1894.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Report on the Blue Book for 1893, which has been furnished by Mr. King-Harman, the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HUBERT E. H. JERNINGHAM,
Governor.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK for 1893.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

	Rs.
The Revenue for 1893 amounted to - -	8,103,922
And the Expenditure to - - -	7,872,096
Showing a balance in favour of the Treasury of - - - - - -	231,826

	Rs.
As compared with the previous year, the Revenue showed an increase of - - -	630,892
And the Expenditure a decrease of - -	152,387

The ratio of revenue to the population was Rs. 21.79 per head. The ratio of expenditure to the population was Rs. 21.17 per head.

After meeting all the ordinary expenditure of the year, and after providing for all claims against the Colony, not including the Public Debt, the Treasury at the close of the year remained with an available balance in hand of Rs. 1,377,588.

PUBLIC DEBT.

	£	s.	d.
The Public Debt, including the Hurricane Loan, amounted at the close of 1893 to - - - - -	1,372,149	0	0
To meet which the Colony was provided with assets amounting to -	726,725	10	0
Leaving a balance of - -	645,423	10	0

payable at periods varying from 30 to 47 years, which will doubtless be extinguished in due course of time by the gradual operation of the Sinking Fund.

With regard to the assets of the Colony, it may be stated that by far the major portion of them are realizable at short notice, and included over 3,000,000 rupees in cash.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The trade for the year 1893 was valued at Rs. 49,302,654 against Rs. 41,751,323 for 1892; and was divided as follows:—

	1892.	1893.
	Rs.	Rs.
Imports - - - -	*23,401,176	‡21,388,191
Exports - - - -	†18,350,147	§27,914,463

* Specie Rs. 7,655,066. † Specie Rs. 256,966. ‡ Specie Rs. 2,488,252.
§ Specie Rs. 5,737,977.

or, exclusive of specie and bullion—

	1892.	1893.
	Rs.	Rs.
Imports - - - -	15,746,116	18,899,939
Exports - - - -	18,093,181	22,176,486

The sum of Rs. 2,488,252 in specie was imported in 1893, of which Rs. 305,976 was received by Government on account of the loan of 600,000*l.* guaranteed by the Imperial Treasury under the provisions of the Mauritius Hurricane Loan Act, 1892, and a sum of Rs. 5,737,977 was exported to India and other places, principally on account of remittances by merchants and traders.

The value of the principal imports for the years 1892 and 1893 was as follows:—

	1892.	1893.
	Rs.	Rs.
Animals	310,876	312,363
Apothecaries' ware	144,446	155,692
Grain, flour, meal	5,469,001	8,009,247
Provisions	1,068,306	1,088,017
Wines spirits, &c.	828,111	863,193
Cottons	1,044,591	1,083,619
Woollens	168,398	163,227
Haberdashery	353,559	394,139
Coal	592,496	412,812
Machinery	205,372	99,539
Iron and steel	278,845	215,105
Hardware and cutlery	447,989	377,899
Leather	166,052	191,005
Manures	1,366,463	1,806,518
Oil of all kinds	569,321	756,855
Tobacco	190,169	187,890
Total	13,203,995	16,117,120

The following table shows in kilogrammes the quantity of sugar manufactured in the Colony exported in the years 1892 and 1893; the value in rupees as declared at the Customs House; and the rate, calculated therefrom, per 100 kilogrammes:—

Year.	Kilogrammes.	Value.	Value per 100 Kilogrammes.
		Rs.	Rs.
1892	93,091,256	15,154,894	16.27
1893	86,067,841	19,409,218	22.46

The following are the principal markets to which the sugar was shipped:—

	1892.	1893.
	Kilos.	Kilos.
India	54,386,563	39,804,432
Australia	8,533,167	7,114,642
United Kingdom	13,982,675	10,235,082
Cape Colonies	7,718,485	11,620,164
Ceylon	5,513,722	10,342,402
Hong Kong	411,705	1,406,544
France	977	2,084,926
Portugal	——	2,570,911

The value of other local products exported in 1892 and 1893 was as follows:—

—	1892.	1893.
	Rs.	Rs.
Rum	313,618	332,441
Vanilla	169,985	83,895
Aloe Fibre	309,653	264,840
Molasses	104,583	104,625

SHIPPING.

The following table gives the number of ships and their tonnage entered inwards and cleared outwards in 1892 and 1893:—

Year.	Inwards.		Outwards.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
1892	399	327,528	398	325,742
1893	340	293,990	347	293,042

Of the vessels entered inwards:—

136 sailing vessels and 102 steamers were British.
23 sailing vessels and 42 steamers were French.
20 sailing vessels and two steamers were German.

The remaining 14 sailing vessels and one steamer were of American, Danish, Italian, Norwegian, Swedish and Zanzibarian nationalities.

Population and Vital Statistics.

The entire population of the Colony and the numbers of its two main divisions at the close of 1893 are estimated as follows:—

—	Males.	Females.	Total.
General Population	59,578	56,354	115,932
Indian Population	144,979	110,887	255,866
Total	204,557	167,241	371,798

The Indian population comprises immigrants, or labourers imported for service, chiefly on sugar estates; settlers from India; and Indo-Mauritians or persons of Indian parentage born in the Colony. This is the largest section of the comunity and comprehends about 170,000 persons of the two sexes and of all ages.

The general population is the non-Indian section of the community; it is chiefly native, but includes all strangers domiciled in the Colony (except Indians). An important group of the general population is the Chinese community, whose strength is estimated at 3,926.

The marriages celebrated by the Civil Status Officers were 1,083 in number; 556 in the general population, (but of these in 37 cases one of the parties was of Indian origin) and 527 in the Indian population. The marriage rate or number of persons married to every thousand living was 6·3 in the whole population. This rate is lower than that of either of the two preceding years.

The births registered in 1893 in the whole and each component group of the population are as follows :—

——	Males.	Females.	Total.
General Population -	1,998	1,911	3,909
Indian Population -	4,726	4,560	9,286
Total - -	6,724	6,471	13,195

The total number of births is less by 1,790 than that of the previous year. The decrease is attributed to the heavy mortality of the year, which fell on women of child-bearing ages as on other age groups. The birth rate of the whole community was 35·3. In 1892 this figure was 40·1.

In the Indian section the rate was 36·0, and in the general section 33·7.

The number of still births was 991; 264 in the General, and 727 in the Indian, population. The corresponding rates to 1,000 live births are 75·1 in the total, 67·5 in the General, and 78·3 in the Indian, sections respectively. The rate is slightly better than that of the previous year.

The deaths in 1893 were distributed as follows :—

——	Males.	Females.	Total.
General Population -	2,358	2,110	4,468
Indian Population -	6,554	4,285	10,839
Total - -	8,919	6,395	15,307

The death rate of 1893 was 40·9; the heaviest mortality experienced since the epidemic of fever in 1867–68. The cause of the increase of mortality was influenza, to which cause 3,441 deaths are attributed. The death rate in the general population was 38·5 and in the Indian 42·0.

The death rate among Immigrant Indians was 58·9. Of the whole number of deaths, 39·4 per cent. are ascribed to fever.

There were 91 violent deaths caused by accident, and 24 suicides (23 of the Indian and 1 of the general population). The mode of self destruction was in 19 cases hanging; all in the Indian population (16 males and three females).

EDUCATION.

Primary Schools.

There were in operation in 1893, 171 primary schools, viz.—Government schools 81 and aided schools 90. In 1892 there were 81 Government schools and 87 aided schools.

The actual attendance of pupils in each category of the foregoing schools was in 1893—

	Average on Roll.	Average Attendance.
Government Schools - - -	8,636	5,162
Aided Schools - - - -	8,023	5,015
Total - - -	16,659	10,177

Compared with the attendance in 1892, these figures show an increase of 202 pupils in an average number on roll and a decrease of 12 pupils in average attendance.

On the 31st December 1893 the children attending the Government and State-aided schools stood as follows, with regard to race :—

1. Creoles, European, African, or Chinese :—
   - Government schools - - 6,291
   - Aided schools - - - 6,132
2. Indian and Indo Mauritian :—
   - Government schools - - 2,244
   - Aided schools - - - 1,946

16,618

Religious Classification.

——	Government schools.	Aided schools.	Total.
Roman Catholic - -	6,243	6,106	12,349
Church of England - -	251	285	536
Other Christian bodies - -	133	127	260
Mahomedans - - -	616	447	1,063
Hindoos and others - -	1,297	1,113	2,410
Total - -	8,540	8,078	16,618

The teaching staff in the primary schools of the Colony at the end of the year 1893 consisted of 249 teachers and monitors in the Government schools, and of 169 teachers in the aided schools; being an increase of three teachers for the Government and of 11 for the aided schools as compared with 1892.

The cost to Government per pupil on roll in 1893 was:—

	Rs.
In Government schools - - -	16·66
In aided schools - - - -	11·59

Being Rs. 0·57 and Rs. 0·05 respectively less than in 1892.

Expenditure.

	Rs.
Administration - - - -	21,114.85
Government schools exclusively - -	149,503.41
Aided schools exclusively - -	92,956.11
Common to Government and aided schools	15,132.63
Industrial education - - -	3,245.30
	Rs.281,952.30

An increase of Rs. 5,520 over the expenditure on primary education in 1892.

Royal College.

The average number of pupils in the Royal College and Royal College Schools in 1892 and 1893 was as follows:—

——	1892.	1893.
Royal College proper - - -	201	201
Royal College School, Port Louis - -	141	117
Royal College School, Curepipe - -	172	179
Total - - - -	514	497

The expenditure for 1893 was Rs. 194,136.94 showing an increase of Rs. 13,244 over the disbursements for 1892.

POST OFFICE AND TELEGRAPHS.

The postal business during the year showed a slight falling off as compared with 1892, both in regard to the correspondence and newspapers which passed through the office, and also in the revenue collected. The Money Order business was more active, and showed an increase of Rs. 106,693 as compared with the previous year.

Statistics.

	1892.	1893.	Decrease in 1893.
Letters - - -	1,126,254	1,115,853	10,401
Postcards - -	24,447	20,520	3,927
Newspapers - -	1,261,584	1,176,296	85,288

The Revenue collected in 1893 was Rs. 66,367 against Rs. 66,843 in 1892.

The first sub-marine telegraph cable laid to Mauritius was completed by the Eastern and South African Telegraph Company in November, and was formally inaugurated on the 25th of that month. The communication is made viâ Seychelles and Zanzibar to Aden, and the annual subsidy to be paid by the Colony is 7,000*l.*

RAILWAYS.

The railways showed an increase of business and of revenue as compared with 1892; the revenue being Rs. 1,583,720, an increase of Rs. 95,078 over the receipts of the previous year, and the expenditure amounting to Rs. 1,010,565 or Rs. 26,540 more than in 1892.

IMMIGRATION.

In 1893 there arrived in the Colony 332 immigrants, of whom 85 were from Madras and the remainder from Calcutta. The number of those who returned to India during the year was 1852, but of these 159 were coolies from Réunion, returned at the expense of the Government of that Colony. As compared with 1892, 135 more souls returned during the year under report.

The immigrant population has, owing to an unhealthy year and an excess of departures over arrivals, decreased from 86,456 in

1892 to 80,693 in 1893. Of the Creole Indian population, which gradually increases, there were working in estates 19,842, the total number of labourers employed in estates being 51,980.

METEOROLOGY.

The mean temperature between two open windows in a large and lofty room at the Observatory, 180 feet above sea level, was 72°·4 against an average of 73°·5 for the last 19 years; the absolute maximum 85°·6 on December 30 and the absolute minimum 57°·4 on August 16th. The mean temperature, obtained from maximum and minimum thermometers exposed in a Stephenson screen on the lawn, was 74°·1, against an average of 74°·8 for the last nine years; the absolute maximum 92°·7 on December 24, and the absolute minimum 53°·4 on September 13.

The mean temperature taken in the district of Moka, 1,100 feet above sea level, was 68°·7; the absolute maximum, 86°, on December 26, and the absolute minimum, 52°, on August 15.

At Curepipe, 1840 feet above sea level, the mean temperature was 67°·1; the absolute maximum, 86°·2, on December 30, and the absolute minimum, 49°·8, on August 14.

The mean barometric pressure at sea level was 30·080 inches, which is the average for the last 19 years; the maximum was 30·411 on August 22, and the minimum 29·330 on January 22.

The rainfall at the Observatory was 48·33 inches against an average of 48·41 inches for the last 19 years. The greatest fall in one month was 12·55 inches in January, and the least 0·91 inch in September. The greatest fall in 24 hours was 4·08 inches from 9 a.m. on the 20th, to 9 a.m. on the 21st April, and the greatest intensity a fall of 1·075 inch in 30 minutes on April 12. February and December were unusually dry. In other parts of the island, the rain fall was much greater than at the Observatory. At Cluny (in Grand Port), 1,000 feet, it was 131·24 inches, and at Curepipe, 1,840 feet, 119·30 inches.

The average hourly velocity of the wind was 10·6 miles against 11·1 miles for the last 18 years. The greatest velocity for one hour was 37·3 on January 27.

LEGISLATION.

Twenty-six Ordinances were passed by the Council of Government in 1893. The financial position of the Colony necessitated the renewal for another year of the Ordinances authorising the levying of a stamp duty on receipts, imposing a surcharge of 10 per cent. on certain duties and taxes, and increasing certain import duties. The loan of 600,000*l.* raised by the Colony in 1892 to meet the wants and necessities created by the disastrous hurricane of the 29th April in that year and to provide funds for

certain public works having proved insufficient for the purposes for which it was obtained, a further enactment was passed in 1893 sanctioning the addition of 20,000, the premium on the above named loan, and of a sum not exceeding Rs. 450,000 to the amount set apart for making loans to planters.

Owing to an extensive conflagration on the 23rd July, a large portion of the town of Port Louis was completely destroyed, and an Ordinance was passed to provide for the acquisition by the Government of the burnt area with a view to the improvement of the same, and also to enable the necessary works for the drainage of that section of the town to be carried out in accordance with a scheme recommended by Mr. O. Chadwick, C.E., C.M.G.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

The total number of offences reported to the police or to the magistrates in 1893 was 39,347 or 8,808 more than in 1892.

The total number of convictions in the inferior courts was 17,890, or 450 more than 1892 and in the Supreme Court 94 against 67 in the previous year.

MILITARY.

The troops in the Colony, including one battalion of the Black Watch, Royal Artillery (90), Royal Engineers (65), Mauritius Companies Royal Artillery (203), numbered 824. The total military expenditure amounted to 54,997*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.*, and the contribution paid by the Colony during the year was 14,701*l.* 9*s.* 10*d.*

(Signed) W. KING-HARMAN,
September 1, 1894. Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 135.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1893.

(For Report for 1892 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 102.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty
May 2, 1895.

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1895.

[C.—7629.–18.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
103	Jamaica	1892–93
104	Victoria	1892
105	Bermuda	1893
106	Gambia	,,
107	Hong Kong	,,
108	St. Vincent	,,
109	Gibraltar	,,
110	Bahamas	,,
111	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
112	Leeward Islands	,,
113	Barbados	,,
114	Malta	,,
115	Zululand	,,
116	British Honduras	,,
117	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
118	Falkland Islands	,,
119	Rodrigues	,,
120	Mauritius	,,
121	Straits Settlements	,,
122	Labuan	,,
123	Basutoland	1893–94
124	St. Lucia	1893
125	St. Helena	,,
126	Ceylon	,,
127	Fiji	,,
128	Grenada	,,
129	Sierra Leone	,,
130	British Bechuanaland	1893–94
131	British New Guinea	1892–3 & 1893–94
132	Lagos	1893
133	British Guiana	1893–94
134	Jamaica	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.

No. 135.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

[For Report for 1892 *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 102.]

Sir TERENCE O'BRIEN to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House, St. John's,
March 12, 1895.

MY LORD MARQUESS,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith, for your Lordship's information, the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1893, together with the Colonial Secretary's report thereon.

I have, &c.
T. O'BRIEN, Lieutenant-Colonel,
Governor.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF NEWFOUNDLAND FOR THE YEAR 1893.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

I HAVE the honour to forward you herewith the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1893, for transmission to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

I am unfortunately unable, in reporting upon the information contained therein, to establish a comparison with the returns for 1892. The destruction of most of the Customs Records and those of other departments by the great fire of that year rendered it impossible to make a full return of the movements of trade and shipping. It will be necessary, therefore, in order to measure the advance or otherwise of the Colony by comparison with previous records, to establish a contrast between 1891 and 1893. Such will, in my estimation, be the best method of testing the condition of the Colony.

As a direct result of the great fire there was, during the latter part of 1892, considerable increase in the importations of the Colony. This increase was largely abnormal, and consequently it should not be taken into consideration when estimating the

NEWFOUNDLAND. 1893.

exact position of the Colony in relation to an increase or decrease of prosperity for the year now under consideration.

From a comparison, then, of the trade returns for the years 1891 and 1893, I am led to the conclusion that 1893 was to the people of Newfoundland quite as prosperous as 1891 and your Excellency will remember that in my report on the Blue Book for that year I stated "that during the year under consideration the "circumstances of our people were most prosperous. That the "exports from the Colony touched the highest point reached "since 1881 and exceeded those of 1890 by over a million and a quarter dollars." From other sources, and notably from the report of the Chamber of Commerce, I have information confirmatory of the conclusion to which I have arrived.

But for the comparative failure of the Seal fishery, the result of the year's operations would have been even more satisfactory. Unfortunately this important Spring fishery proved unsuccessful; the total number of seals taken did not amount to one-half of the previous year's catch. Compared with the voyage for 1892 the result is as follows:—

1893.

Skins, 175,748, valued at $166,704.
Oil, 2,932 tuns, valued at $205,240.

1892.

Skins, 390,174, valued at $468,209.
Oil, 5,301, tuns, valued at $397,575.

The cod-fishery for the year 1893, both shore and Labrador, was fairly successful in its results, the catch was an average one, the cure better than for many years past, and the local prices good. Unfortunately for exporters, the prices obtained in foreign markets, especially those of Spain and Portugal, were not altogether satisfactory, owing to bounty-fed competition.

As a consequence of the low prices obtainable in these countries for our staple, a large quantity of the fish hitherto exported to those countries was diverted to Brazil, where the prices realized were satisfactory and the demand brisk and continuous, a state of affairs due, no doubt, to the revolution, which, keeping the country in a perturbed state, prevented that attention being paid to agriculture and the preparation of dried food-stuffs.

The minor fisheries, with the exception of the lobster-fishery, show no signs of improvement. The results of the lobster-fishery during the past year have been most gratifying, the quantity secured being above the average and the prices realized, both in local and foreign markets, remunerative.

As a consequence of an unfortunate season, I am unable to report a satisfactory result with regard to last year's farming operations. Root crops were very short, the only compensation being the good crops of hay and fodder.

The output of our mines was largely in excess of 1892, but the prices ruling lower the financial returns are only about equal to those of last year.

A large increase will be found in the quantity of lumber exported. This industry is steadily increasing, and, with the opening up of the country by the construction of the railway, a further increase can be confidently expected. The price obtained for our lumber in local and foreign markets was good, and I am glad to be in a position to state that as to both quality and price obtained our lumber compares most favourably with that of Canada in the English markets. It is to be exceedingly regretted that visitors from England who come to this Colony annually to gratify their sporting proclivities should persist in decrying its lumbering and other capabilities through the medium of the English press. These persons have no opportunity of judging of the extent or quantity of the lumber, or of the mineral deposits, as their pursuits confine their journeyings to the barren lands. It cannot be but apparent to the thoughtful that the object which prompts the observations referred to is entirely selfish, and designed to prevent the development and settlement of the interior, which is at present regarded as the best sporting ground in North America.

The total amount deposited in the Savings Bank on the 31st December 1893 shows an increase of $34,932 over 1892.

Railway work progressed steadily and continued until late in December, affording employment to over 2,000 of our people. The work performed by the contractor has been highly satisfactory.

The revenue of the Colony on current account amounted to the sum of $1,753,344 and a further sum of $100,000 was raised on capital account under the Railway Connecting Roads Act. Compared with that of 1892 (from the total of which must be deducted $32,260 received for insurance on Public Buildings burnt on 8th July) this shows a decrease of $97,686, which sum will probably be accounted for by the importations having assumed normal proportions after the great fire of the year previous. The Customs receipts for the latter year were $1,731,893 and in the former $1,626,778, a falling off of $105,115, a sum which approximates sufficiently to the actual decrease in the Customs revenue to show the correctness of the assumption above made.

The expenditure for 1893 amounted to $1,807,100 on current account, as against $1,643,878 in 1892, an increase of $163,222, the principal items of increase being, on account of Educational Disbursements ($24,000), Election Expenses ($40,000), Relief of Poor ($12,000), Postal Department ($20,000), St. John's Fire Brigade ($29,000), Steam ($17,000), Interest on Public Debt ($52,000), while those of decrease were, Addresses of Legislature

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($16,000), Fishery Protection ($19,000), Railways ($13,000), Roads ($9,000).

The expenditure on capital account amounted to $302,912, as against $24,343 in 1892, to represent which we have the following, Grand Bank and Fortune Improvements $3,140.27, New Custom House, St. John's $5,757.48, New Factory, St. John's $1,696.43, New Court House, St. John's 6,432.64, Queen's Wharf, St. John's $11,996.55, St. John's Rebuilding Act $211,667.83, Railway Connecting Roads $56,257.61, Hospital, Ross's Valley $5,963.62.

The statement dealing with the assets and liabilities of the Colony shows that the floating balance against the Colony stands at the close of the year at the sum of $835,848, irrespective of the sum of $157,940 unexpended legislative grants, making in all a total of $993,752.

The Funded Public Debt of the Colony amounted at the close of the year to the sum of $8,255,546.65 having been increased during the year by $1,862,179·15, made up as follows :—

	$	c.
St. John's Rebuilding Act 1893 - - -	202,419	15
Act 53 Vict. c. 4., Hall's Bay Railway - -	1,014,000	00
Act 53 Vict. c. 4., Western Railway - -	545,760	00
Act 56 Vict. c. 24., Railway Connecting Roads -	100,000	00
	1,862,179	15

Deducting from the total Public Debt the amount due by the St. John's Municipal Council and guaranteed by the Government ($1,131,407) and adding the floating debt given above, the actual indebtedness of the Colonial Government will be found to be $8,117,891 or about $40 per head of population. The increase of funded debt is due to the construction of 100 miles of railway, the purchase of land in St. John's for the widening of streets, and to the loan for Railway Connecting Roads above-mentioned.

TRADE.

Under the heading "General condition of Colony" I have sufficiently enlarged on trade movements for the year under consideration. I shall confine myself to the following statement having reference to imports and exports.

The total value of Imports for 1893 amounted to $7,572,569, of which $2,680,853 worth was from Great Britain, $3,127,954 from the Colonies, and $1,763,762 from foreign countries.

The value of Exports being, to Great Britain $1,303,650, to British Colonies $1,169,932, and to Foreign countries $3,802,330, making a total of $6,280,912.

SHIPPING.

In 1893, 2874 vessels, with an aggregate tonnage of 852,308, were entered and cleared, of which 2,622 ships, measuring 816,494

tons, were British registered. The records not being complete for the previous year, no comparison can be made.

LEGISLATION.

Twenty-seven Acts were placed upon the Statute Book of the Colony during the year under consideration, of which the following are the most important :—

Cap. II.—Which authorizes the construction and equipment of a line of railway to Port-aux-Basques, a distance of about 280 miles from Placentia Junction.

Cap. III.—Provides for the maintenance and operation of the lines of railway from Whitbourne to Port-aux-Basques and branches.

Cap. IV.—Provides for the establishment and maintenance of a Fire Department in the town of St. John's and authorizes the appointment of Fire Commissioners.

Cap. VI.—"An Act respecting Foreign Fishing Vessels" makes provision for the granting of licenses to foreign fishing vessels, for the purchase of bait and general supplies for the fishery; license fee being $1.50 per ton. It also authorises the boarding and searching of vessels by authorised officers.

Cap. VII.—This Act provides for the appointment of a Council of Higher Education consisting of 23 members, and has in view the raising of the standard of education in the Colony by the holding of examinations, and the awarding of scholarships, &c.

Cap. VIII.—"An Act respecting the Department of Fisheries." This Act provides for the formation of a Department of Fisheries, the appointment of a Commissioner of Fisheries, having the direction of the said Department, and the administration of all laws relating to sea and inland fisheries.

Cap. XII.—"An Act to regulate the practice of medicine and Surgery in the Colony." This Act provides for the formation of a Medical Board, consisting of seven regularly qualified practitioners, whose duties shall be to make and enforce measures for the protection and preservation of life in the Colony.

Cap. XVIII.—This Act extends the right to celebrate marriages to Staff Officers of the Salvation Army.

Cap. XIX.—This Act provides for the recognition in Newfoundland of probates and letters of administration granted in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland by the Supreme Court.

Cap. XXI.—Provides for the continuance of the French Treaties Act until 31st December 1895.

EDUCATION.

I have nothing special to report under this head during the year. The provisions of the Act authorising the appointment of a Council

NEWFOUNDLAND. 1893.

of Higher Education were carried into effect and the initiatory stages of a scheme destined to encourage a more advanced system of education in this Colony were undertaken by the said Council.

In 1893, 576 schools were in operation, with an attendance of 34,337; in 1892 the numbers were respectively 514 and 34,526. The total expenditure, including legislative grants, fees, and voluntary contributions, amounted in 1893 to $141,143.

FISHERIES.

This subject has been generally dealt with under the head of "general condition of the Colony." A comparative statement of the Seal fishery for 1892 and 1893 shows the following:—

——	1893.	1892.
Number of skins	175,748	390,174
Tuns of oil	2,932	5,301
Value of skins	$ 166,704	$ 468,209
Value of oil	205,240	397,575

A decrease of 214,426 in the number of seals taken, of 2,369 tuns in the yield of oil, and of $493,840 in the value of the total returns.

Unfortunately, owing to the lack of record, similar comparative statements cannot be given with regard to our other fisheries. I, however, append the result of the season's catch, including Labrador.

Cod Fishery.

——	Quantity.	Value.
		$
Dried	1,160,335 qtls.	4,328,499
Green	1,101 qtls.	1,982
Boneless	- -	15,501
Skinless	- -	9,624
Other	- -	60
		4,355,666
Cod oil	3,000 tuns	216,000
		$4,571,666

Herring Fishery.

—	Quantity.	Value.
		$
Pickled - - - - -	60,322 barrels -	181,094
Frozen - - - - -	46,883 barrels -	46,883
Smoked - - - - -	95 cases - -	190
		$228,167

Salmon Fishery.

—	Quantity.	Value.
		$
Pickled - - - - -	3,499 tierces -	55,984
Preserved - - - -	63 cases - -	504
Trout, pickled - - - -	1,640 barrels -	12,463
		$68,951

Lobster Fishery.

—	Quantity.	Value.
		$
Preserved - - - -	35,403 cases -	265,522

LUMBERING.

In addition to what I have previously stated respecting this industry, the following figures will indicate for the years 1892-1893 its rapid expansion, comparative statement of the returns of which are as follows.

The export in 1892 was 2355 M.; in 1893, 3073 M.; and an enormous quantity of native timber was used in the re-building of the city.

RAILWAYS.

During the year under consideration, the work on the Hall's Bay Railway was rapidly pushed forward, and the close of the year witnessed the completion of that line and the commencement of the Western Railway across the Island and down to Port-aux-Basques. Thirty-five miles of iron was laid for the western line before the work was stopped for the season.

NEWFOUNDLAND. 1893.

MINING.

I regret having to chronicle a very considerable falling off in the quantity and value of exportations of mining produce. This however, was largely due to the closing down of one of our principal mines at Little Bay consequent upon the great depth of the mine (over 1,500 feet) and the expense of getting the ore to the surface also tended to restrict operations.

Asbestos mines are still being worked on the west coast by English and Canadian capitalists, and new deposits have been uncovered by prospectors during the year.

I have, &c.
R. BOND,
Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 131.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

ANNUAL REPORTS FOR 1892–3 AND 1893–4.

(For Report for 1891–92, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 68.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
March 5, 1895.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
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1895.

[C.—7629.–14.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
96	Sierra Leone	1892
97	Fiji	,,
98	Rodrigues	,,
99	St. Helena	,,
100	British Bechuanaland	1892–93
101	British Guiana	,,
102	Newfoundland	1892
103	Jamaica	1892–93
104	Victoria	1892
105	Bermuda	1893
106	Gambia	,,
107	Hong Kong	,,
108	St. Vincent	,,
109	Gibraltar	,,
110	Bahamas	,,
111	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
112	Leeward Islands	,,
113	Barbados	,,
114	Malta	,,
115	Zululand	,,
116	British Honduras	,,
117	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
118	Falkland Islands	,,
119	Rodrigues	,,
120	Mauritius	,,
121	Straits Settlements	,,
122	Labuan	,,
123	Basutoland	,,
124	St. Lucia	,,
125	St. Helena	,,
126	Ceylon	,,
127	Fiji	,,
128	Grenada	,,
129	Sierra Leone	,,
130	British Bechuanaland	1893–94

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 131.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

[For Report for 1891–92, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 68.]

No. 1.

Sir H. W. Norman to the Marquess of Ripon.

Government House, Brisbane,
July 18, 1894.

My Lord Marquess,

I have the honour to enclose the Annual Report of the British New Guinea Administration for the year ending 30th June, 1893.

2. Owing to delays in the printing and revision of this report, which is dated the 20th December last, I only received it on the 20th June, when I at once referred it for the observations of the Queensland Government.

I have not yet received the remarks of Mr. Nelson, and as the Report should have been transmitted to your Lordship some time ago, I will not detain it longer, and therefore send it forward. My own observations will follow, together with those which I may receive from the Chief Secretary.

I have, &c.
H. W. Norman.

I 85240. Wt. 20348. A 2

British New Guinea. 1892-3.

Annual Report on British New Guinea from 1st July 1892, to 30th June, 1893.

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Sir WM. MACGREGOR to Sir H. W. NORMAN.

SIR, Government House, December 20, 1893.

I HAVE the honour to present the usual Annual Report, as directed by Section XXXVI. of the Royal Instructions, for the year ending on the 30th June, 1893.

LEGISLATION.

1. Comparatively little was added to the laws of the Possession during the year. There has been no legislation where there was not a clear need for it. The settlement of Europeans in the Colony proceeds so slowly that few new laws are necessary on their account; and a multiplicity of laws and regulations would only confuse and discourage a native race passing from the darkness of savage barbarism into the light of civilization.

Each Ordinance, Regulation, or Order, having the force of law, and enacted during the year, is briefly noticed below.

Ordinances.

2. Ordinance No. VI. of 1892 was passed to appropriate a sum not exceeding 15,000*l.* to the Service of the year. This is the sum payable in respect of the necessary expenses of the administration of the Government of the Possession under "*The British New Guinea (Queensland) Act of* 1887." Of this sum 3,300*l.* is set aside for the Civil List salaries, under Section XVII. of the Letters Patent. Other appropriations are: 3,650*l.* for salaries exclusive of those on the Civil List; 2,250*l.* for vessels and boats; and 5,800*l.* for miscellaneous services. The Ordinance also made the balance to the credit of the Exploration Fund, 509*l.* 5*s.*, available for the purposes for which it was intended; and it appropriated 7,000 for the maintenance of the ss. "Merrie England." Of this last sum Her Majesty's Imperial Government provided 5,000*l.*, and the contributing Colonies supplied the other 2,000*l.*

3. Ordinance No. VII. of 1892 was adopted to regulate the cutting of indigenous timber. Several inquiries were made from Australia as to the terms and conditions under which timber could be obtained here for export; a considerable trade in sandalwood was also springing up, and it became necessary to provide against certain abuses connected with it. It is by no means clear that timber can at present be profitably exported from this country, and it seems that the sandalwood market is limited and capricious. It was therefore seen that any restrictions imposed, and any dues to be collected, should be as little burdensome as possible. The Ordinance does not apply to land alienated by the Crown, nor to land leased from the Crown, unless the Crown has reserved the timber on the leased land. District inspectors can be appointed by the Administrator to see that the Ordinance or any Regulation under it is carried out.

The cutting of timber may be altogether prohibited in certain areas, or the cutting of specified kinds of timber only may be disallowed. No sandalwood trees can be cut if of less than twelve

inches circumference a foot from the ground. This limitation was needed because the sandalwood was being generally cut by natives who, especially at first, felled trees of all sizes, but more generally the small ones, which were, of course, useless for export.

A license is required for cutting timber to be sawn otherwise than by hand, or to be exported or sold as timber. The fees payable for licenses, their duration and scope, are to be defined by Regulations. The Ordinance does not apply to timber cut by a native on his own land or for the use of natives.

A native may enter into a contract before a timber inspector to supply any person with a specified quantity of timber at a fixed price, but not for remuneration in the shape of wages.

Regulations were made by the Administrator in Council under this Ordinance on 31st December, 1892. Under these every application for a license to cut timber on Crown lands has to be made in writing. The license may be issued for six or for twelve months. It empowers the licensee and his servants to cut any timber (not forbidden to be cut) on Crown land within the district to which the license applies. A license is not transferable nor transmissible. The license fee is—For twelve months, 2*l.*; for six months, 1*l.* Timber cannot be cut on Crown lands within twenty yards of high-water mark, or within twenty yards of any permanent stream or sheet of water.

4. The object of Ordinance No. VIII. of 1892 was to prevent the introduction into the Possession of parasitic diseases affecting trees and plants. The proximate cause for passing this law was to guard against "coffee leaf disease"; but the enactment is so prepared as to be capable of general application for the protection of any plant of economic value. In this special case of coffee it was found that there was sufficient coffee already growing in the Possession to supply seeds for all future wants. It was free of disease; and in addition to this some coffee seeds were, through the kindness of the Government of Jamaica and the Kew authorities, imported from that Colony, which was said to be free of the disease. There is an unlimited area of land in this country suitable for the cultivation of coffee; and as the presence or absence of "coffee leaf disease" probably means the working of this industry at a loss or at a good profit, it was thought desirable that, as this Colony already possesses healthy coffee, both of the Arabian and Liberian varieties, further importations of plants or seeds should be forbidden.

Under the Ordinance, the introduction of any specified tree or plant may be prohibited; or the importation may be so restricted that it can be made from certain countries only.

Precautions to be taken and conditions to be observed in importing plants may be prescribed by Regulations.

Plants or seeds imported contrary to law may be seized and destroyed.

5. Ordinance No. IX. of 1892 gives the necessary legal authority for certain expenditure during the year in excess of the

sums provided under "*The Appropriation Ordinance of* 1891," These amount to a total of 847*l.* 15*s.* Savings to the same amount were affected on other items. The supplemental expenditure comprised 471*l.* 19*s.* 9*d.* on "boats and vessels." This excess was chiefly owing to the purchase of a new ketch for the Eastern Magisterial Division. It was chiefly in connection with the building of a bonded warehouse at Samarai and of quarters for the magistrate of the South-Eastern (Louisiade) Division that the vote for "Buildings and Public Works" was insufficient by 180*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.* On "Agriculture," there was an excess of 35*l.* 12*s.* 3*d.*, arising from the introduction of new economic plants, and in connection with cocoanut planting.

The vote for "Surveys" was 96*l.* 3*s.* 1*d.* less than what was disbursed for them. The sum of 628*l.* 3*s.* 1*d.* was expended on this service. Fees collected for surveys are paid with ordinary revenue to the credit of the contributing Colonies, and are not to be used in paying for surveys.

Under the heading of "Unforeseen," there was an unauthorised expenditure on miscellaneous services amounting to 63*l.* 9*s.* 10*d.*

Native Regulations.

6. Only one Native Regulation was made by the Native Regulation Board during the year. It is one of much importance, providing for the appointment of village constables. The force of armed constabulary that can be maintained is very far short of what the area, the population, and the difficult nature of the country requires. It would take the whole of the funds at present provided for the expenses of the administration of the Government to provide an armed constabulary sufficient at all points for the requirements of the Colony. It is, therefore, clearly necessary to create, if possible, some cheap auxiliary force.

Under the Regulation the Administrator may appoint village constables, at such rate to pay as he may determine. The village constable can arrest for contravention of a Native Regulation. He is under the authority of the magistrate.

7. An important task connected with Native Regulations was undertaken by Mr. Lawes, Secretary for Native Affairs, who translated the Penal Regulations into the Motu language, the best and most widely understood of all the native dialects.

The first ten Regulations prescribe the procedure to be followed in the Native Courts, and their translation is unnecessary. Those translated by Mr. Lawes deal with—

Stealing - - - -	No. XI. of 1890.
Injuries to persons - - -	No. XII. of 1890.
Burial of the dead - - -	No. XIII. of 1890.
Lying reports and threats - -	No. II. of 1891.
Destroying cocoanut trees - -	No. III. of 1891.
Adultery - - - -	No. IV. of 1891.
Village Constables - -	No. I. of 1892.

It is not necessary, as above stated, to translate the first ten into the native languages, as they are principally for the guidance of the magistrate; but it is of very great importance that the Penal Regulations should be translated, so that the natives can be made to understand what things are forbidden by Regulation.

Probably all teachers of the London Missionary Society can read and explain these Regulations in the Motu tongue; certainly all save one or two of the Government officers, and many settlers can do so, while a certain number of natives can read them.

Order in Council.

8. On the 2nd July, 1892, an Order in Council was passed under, "*The Post and Telegraph Act*, 1891 (*Queensland adopted*)," directing that the Possession should join the Universal Postal Union. This step was necessary as Queensland had joined it, and the Possession is on the footing of a postal district of that Colony.

At the same time Postal Regulations were prepared and approved by the Administrator in Council, on the same lines as those in force in Queensland.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

9. The establishment for the Administration of Justice was described in last year's Annual Report. There has been little or no change.

Mr. F. P. Winter, C.M.G., Chief Judicial Officer, has prepared the following tabulated list of cases dealt with by the Courts during the year:—

MATTERS DEALT WITH JUDICIALLY FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1893.

CENTRAL COURT.

Criminal Business.

Number of Persons committed for Trial.	District from which committed.	Persons committed—how disposed of.
13	Central District	1 committal quashed. 10 tried. 2 awaiting trial.
16	Eastern District	1 sent back to be dealt with summarily. 9 tried. 1 discharged. 5 awaiting trial.
7	Western District	7 tried.
Total - 36		

The Court held Fourteen Criminal Sessions at the Places and Times, and with the Results, under-mentioned:—

Number of Persons tried.	Offence charged.	Result of Trial.	Sentence.
	SAMARAI—20th and 21st July 1892.		
7	Murder	3 guilty, 4 not guilty	3 death.
	KITAI, BONA-BONA—22nd July, 1892.		
4	3 murder	3 guilty, murder	3 death.
	1 (1) rape, (2) assault	1 guilty, assault	1 three months imprisonment with hard labour.
	PANNAIETI ISLAND—27th July, 1892.		
1	1 murder	1 Guilty	1 death.
	ROSSEL ISLAND—11th August, 1892.		
2	1 attempt to murder	1 guilty, attempt to murder	2 two years' imprisonment with hard labour.
	1 (1) murder (2) larceny	1 guilty, larceny	
	DOBU—18th August, 1892.		
1	Assault	Not guilty.	
	DUAU (NORMANBY ISLAND)—27th August, 1892.		
2	2 (1) murder, (2) wounding with intent, &c.	2 guilty, wounding with intent to do grievous bodily harm.	2 five years' penal servitude.
	DABEO, MILNE BAY—30th August, 1892.		
1	(1) murder, (2) wounding with intent, &c.	1 guilty, manslaughter	1 two years' imprisonment with hard labour.
	SAMARAI—5th September, 1892.		
2	1 murder	1 guilty, murder	1 death.
	1 (1) robbery, (2) larceny, (3) receiving stolen goods	1 guilty, receiving stolen goods.	1 twelve months' imprisonment with hard labour.
	RIGO STATION—8th November, 1892.		
5	2 murder	2 guilty, manslaughter	2 twelve months' imprisonment with hard labour.
	3 assault	3 guilty, assault	3 one month's imprisonment with hard labour.
	PERAMA, FLY RIVER—13th December, 1892.		
1	Murder	Guilty, manslaughter	1 one years' imprisonment with hard labour.
	PORT MORESBY—17th December, 1892.		
1	Murder	Guilty	Death.
	SAMARAI—21st and 22nd December, 1892.		
4	3 murder	2 guilty murder, 1 discharged	2 death.
	1 extortion as a constable	1 guilty of extortion as constable.	1 three months' imprisonment with hard labour.
	PORT MORESBY—14th April, 1893.		
	7 murder	7 guilty, murder	7 death.
	PORT MORESBY—26th May, 1893.		
4	2 murder, 2 sedition	1 guilty, manslaughter, 3 not guilty.	1 twelve months' imprisonment with hard labour.
Total 42			

Civil Business.

Number of Proceedings.	Nature of Proceedings, &c.
6	Applications for order to administer by Curator of Intestate Estates.
2	Applications for directions by Curator of Intestate Estates.
8	

COURTS OF PETTY SESSIONS.

Indictable Offences Jurisdiction.

District of Court.	Number of Persons Charged.	Nature of Charge.	Result of Inquiry.
Central District -	18	12 murder - -	13 committed.
		1 unlawfully using explosives.	3 discharged.
		3 assault - -	2 on remand.
		2 sedition - -	
Eastern District -	20	11 murder - -	15 committed.
		4 receiving stolen goods.	1 discharged.
		1 gaol-breaking -	4 on remand.
		1 extortion as a constable.	
		1 indecent assault -	
		2 attempt to murder.	
Western District -	9	9 murder - -	7 committed.
			2 discharged.
	Total 47		

Summary Offences Jurisdiction.

District of Court.	Number of Persons Charged.	Nature of Charge.	Result of Trial.
Central District -	17	2 Injuring property - -	2 convicted.
		4 Breach of Masters and Servants Act.	4 convicted.
		8 Assault - - - -	6 convicted, 2 dismissed.
		1 Larceny - - -	1 convicted.
		1 Deserting when armed constable.	1 convicted.
		1 unlawful removal of a native	1 convicted.
Eastern District -	14	1 Resisting the police - -	1 convicted.
		6 Assault - - - -	4 convicted, 2 dismissed.
		3 Larceny - - -	3 convicted.
		1 Aggravated assault on a female.	1 convicted.
		1 Obtaining money on false pretences.	1 convicted.
		1 Desertion from ship - -	1 convicted.
		1 disobedience as armed constable.	1 convicted.
Western District -	—	Nil.	
	Total 31		

Civil Jurisdiction.

District of Court.	Number of Actions tried.	Amount involved.	Result of Action.
		£ s. d.	
Central District	1	0 13 6	For plaintiff.
Eastern District	1	5 0 0	For plaintiff.
Western District	—	—	—
	2		

NATIVE MAGISTRATES' COURTS.

Criminal Jurisdiction (Forbidden Acts).

District of Court.	Number of Persons Charged.	Nature of Charge.	Result of Trial.
No. 3 (Eastern)	7	3 larceny	3 convicted.
		1 abduction of woman	1 convicted.
		3 assault	2 convicted, 1 dismissed.
No. 2 (Central)	36	6 assault	3 convicted, 3 dismissed.
		16 larceny	16 convicted.
		3 adultery	3 convicted.
		1 threatening language	1 convicted.
		4 disobeying magistrate's order.	4 convicted.
		5 burying corpse in village	5 convicted.
		1 injuring property	1 convicted.
No. 1 (Western)	5	3 adultery	3 convicted.
		2 assault	1 convicted, 1 dismissed.
	Total 48		

Civil Jurisdiction (Civil Claims).

District of Court.	Number of Actions Tried.	Nature of Action.	Result of Trial.
No. 3 (Eastern)	—	—	—
No. 2 (Central)	1	Negligently injuring canoe	Verdict for plaintiff for 1*l.* 10*s.*
No. 1 (Western)	1	Claim to ownership of a garden	Verdict for plaintiff.
	Total 2		

TOTAL NUMBER OF CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS.

In Central Court	36
In Courts of Petty Sessions (exclusive of the 36 that went up to Central Court)	42
In Native Magistrates' Courts	48
In all Courts	126

TOTAL NUMBER OF CIVIL PROCEEDINGS.

In Central Court	8
In Courts of Petty Sessions	2
In Native Magistrates' Courts	2
In all Courts	12

Of the 36 persons committed by the lower court for trial on criminal charges before the Central Court, seven remained untried at the close of the year. Of the 29 tried, 18 were sentenced by the court to undergo capital punishment.

The first of these was a native of Pannieti, who killed a woman of another tribe, because some of her relations had, when he was a small boy, killed the head of the murderer's family. He had been hunted from place to place for nearly two years, and was finally captured by some of his own tribe who were assisting the constabulary.

It was the first case of the kind so dealt with in his neighbourhood. The sentence was commuted to penal servitude.

Three men of Basilaki Island were sentenced to death for murdering a man of their own tribe, because he had seduced the wife of one of them. They were not aware that redress could be obtained in court under the native regulations, and, consequently, dealt with the case according to their own usage. The clemency of the Crown was extended to them also.

Three men of Modewa, a village on the coast between Samarai and Suau, were condemned to death for murdering one of their own tribe. The latter had, some eight months previously, killed the wife of one of the three, and a day or two before they fell upon him, he had murdered another women because she refused to marry him. They acted to redress a private wrong, and in the public interest, according to their view, because they said they were afraid he would kill some other person. The prerogative of mercy was exercised in their favour.

The other cases in which capital punishment was imposed and in which the penalty was commuted were the following:—

A man of the Tauputa tribe, on the north-east coast murdered his sister. She had urged another brother to go to hunt wild swine. He went, and was killed by a boar. When overwhelmed with grief the surviving brother killed the sister, probably hardly knowing what he was doing.

A man of one of the Koiari hill villages in the Central District killed a woman at the instigation of her stepson. This woman was about to marry without the consent of the latter, who, according to the custom of the tribe, had the right to dispose of her hand. The stepson acted quite within his tribal rights in causing her to be put to death. The murderer escaped to the mountains, where he was periodically hunted for more than a year and a half by the constabulary and village police, pursued and driven from place to place until he was captured.

Two men of Ware, an Orangerie Bay tribe, murdered a native of Bina, an inland village of the same district. They were apprehended by the constabulary and were duly tried in the Central Court. The victim was a reputed sorcerer, and was believed to have procured the death of several people by the exercise of his art. The brother-in-law of one of the murderers was said to be one of his victims. The murderers believed that they were redressing a private wrong and removing a public evil.

Seven men of the Wabuda tribe were tried at Port Moresby for murders committed in their own district. Their sept made a general onslaught on a neighbouring people, in which some sixteen heads were taken. Each convict was proved to have killed some person in this intertribal fight.

In no case was the extreme penalty of the law carried out during the year. In every case the crime was admitted by the accused, who often urged reasons to justify it.

The Central Court held fourteen sittings for criminal cases, viz.:—

In the Western Division	1
„ Central Division	4
„ Eastern Division	7
„ South-Eastern Division	2

It is a noteworthy fact, and a matter for special congratulation, that no European was required to appear before the court as an accused person.

No cases of supplying to natives intoxicating liquor, arms, or ammunition came under notice, and there was only one case of unlawfully removing a native. About half of all cases that came before the lower courts were for acts of violence.

Administrative Visits of Inspection.

A brief summary is given below of the more important visits of inspection made during the year.

10. On the 6th July, 1892, a tour of inspection eastward was begun at the village of Tupuseleia. It was found to be as quiet and orderly as any average European village. A man of position in the community, selected by the villagers themselves, was appointed village policeman. The Kappa-Kappa tribe were found to have made excellent use of a tract of land given to them by the Government out of an area abandoned by another tribe. They had planted over 2,000 cocoanuts. This village is only a few miles from the Government station at Rigo, and is so advanced in civilisation that the inhabitants often (whenever required) supply the Government Agent with special constables. In that capacity they conduct themselves with perfect honesty and moderation.

They, like the Tupuseleia people, were abandoning their pile houses for buildings ashore.

The Government station for the Rigo district was in good condition. Substantial quarters had been provided for the agent, and a very fine hardwood prison had been built, capable of receiving eight or ten inmates. Over 3,000 cocoanuts had been planted.

The tribes of Rigo, Saroa, and Gosoru were also visited, and found to be living as well-ordered and neighbourly communities

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with, what was something unusual for them in former days, plenty of food. The Chiefs of Saroa and Gosoru are men of great intelligence, and are warm and active friends of the new order of things. Two Gosoru villages were passed through between the principal village of that tribe and Libikina, the foremost village of the Saroaki tribe. They were both thriving, industrious, and peaceful.

The Saroaki people, who appeared to have been very severely dealt with by the Protectorate, had taken their abode on the Vanigera River. They had given up raids on their neighbours and were living quietly and peacefully, and were establishing relations of amity with far inland tribes. But there was one cloud on their horizon; they had been in serious trouble for persisting in the obnoxious custom of keeping dead and decomposing human bodies in their villages. Their resistance to the Government Agent had been of a passive nature, that is, they all ran away when he went near them, but at this visit they promised that these practices should be discontinued in future. Another large village of the tribe, which had experienced the same troubles, promised like amendment.

The chief of Wabba-rabba, an enlightened man, and very friendly towards the Government, was officially installed at the large metropolis of that tribe. They are perhaps the strongest community in the district, and they seemed to think that their position and comfort had profited much from the establishment of peace and order in their country. Much fine alluvial land was passed over on the right bank of the Vanigera before the village of of Waikune was reached. This place contains the re-assembled fragments of a large tribe which was broken up and dispersed by combinations of their neighbours. They have now made a good village on their present site, and do not seem to wish to return to the old ones. Their chief is a man of unusual intelligence, who appears to be able to maintain tolerable rule among his people.

The Kalo tribe were found to be law-abiding, but somewhat lofty and reserved. They have very large cocoanut groves on the lower half-dozen miles of the Vanigera River, which makes them wealthy and independent. Their progress in religious matters, it was clear, had not kept pace with their political and social advancement. This tribe and the next visited, that of Kerepunu, have, from time immemorial, had market meetings at certain regular intervals, for the exchange of fish for vegetables. These fell frequently on Sunday; but they are now beginning to show a tendency to confine their marketing to the other six days of the week.

All the coast villages of the Aroma District were inspected from Paraman to Billeruppu. They were all peaceful and comfortable. They had made peace with the surrounding tribes, who had been their hereditary enemies, and appeared well disposed towards the Government. The opinion was formed that if certain villages assumed at any time a hostile attitude towards the Government, it would be possible to keep the others detached from

them. They were beginning to make copra for the trade, and were extending their own bartering operations along the coast among other tribes.

11. On the 21st July, 1892, the Government station at Samarai was inspected, and found to be in good order under the supervision of Mr. Moreton. The whole island had been planted in cocoanuts some time before, and the plants had been well attended to, and looked thriving. A cocoanut plantation, in connection with the station, had also been commenced on the mainland. Mr. Moreton had dealt with all known cases of crime in the district—work he had found much in arrear.

A sitting of the Central Court was held at Samarai on the 22nd. The most important case dealt with was one in which certain natives were charged with the murder of a European trader, a foreigner. It appeared that this man had, without any provocation, shot a native of Goodenough Island. To keep beyond reach of the magistrate he was leading a sort of outlaw life, keeping well clear of Samarai. He had some nine natives on board, who, believing that they were being carried away from their own country, murdered him.

Herr Rose, Landeshauptman of Kaiser Wilhelmsland, had courteously intimated to the Government of the Possession that a certain European trader from British New Guinea had been murdered inside the German jurisdiction, on the north-east coast of the mainland. As the man reported to have been killed was known to be alive, and as there had been some reason to believe that the trader killed by those tried at Samarai had met his fate far inside the British jurisdiction, it was not ascertained until the case came before the Central Court that it was the one that had been reported to Herr Rose. The prisoners had to be discharged, as there was no jurisdiction in the Court to try them. Eight of the nine men on board with the victim had been pursued and arrested in different places at immense trouble and some expense. As, however, they had undergone much hardship, and some of them considerable terms of imprisonment, they did not altogether escape punishment. The result of the case was intimated to the Government of Kaiser Wilhelmsland, but it was the opinion of each Government that nothing further could be done in the matter.

It was found on a visit to the island of Tubetube that a substantial house was being built there for a European minister of the Wesleyan Church. The Rev. Messrs. Watson and Field spoke favourably of the intelligence of the natives, and of their willingness to assist them in building operations.

The island of Pannieti was called at a day or two later. The Rev. Mr. Fellows had already got much influence over the natives there; but they were unsettled because there was still at large a member of their tribe that had committed a murder some time before. A man of some influence was appointed chief of the

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island, and the people were invited to look about for a suitable person to be made policeman for the island.

At this and the neighbouring small islands the people have a decided tendency to neglect cultivation by spending their time sailing about in their canoes.

Two villages were visited on the south coast of Misima (St. Aignan) at which teachers of the Wesleyan Mission were successfully establishing themselves. They had not been there long enough to enable an opinion to be formed as to the influence they might exert on those backward tribes; but undoubtedly it will require great tact and patience to effect much on that island. It appeared that intertribal war had practically been put an end to on Misima. There were about thirty diggers on the island. By employing natives to asssist them in their very laborious toil, they were able to make a living, but probably only very small profits.

A few days later, the murderer at large on Pannieti was, by the aid of some members of that tribe, made prisoner.

The island of Nivani, in the same neighbourhood, was, after careful examination, selected as a site for the headquarters of the Resident Magistrate of the South-eastern Division.

At Griffin Point, Tagula (Sudest), it was reported that there were about thirty diggers on the island. It seemed to be no easy matter for them to make a living, even with very hard work. Some half-dozen of them had returned from Roua or Yela (Rossel Island), where they had failed to find payable gold.

Some time before this a foreign trader had been murdered by a number of natives on the south side of Yela, who had conspired together for that purpose. All coast tribes were visited from Yongga Bay, on the north of Yela, to Tama, on the south of the island, where the crime had been committed. All were made friendly, and several lent very useful assistance to the Government. Some arrests were made at Tama, and a small party was left to secure two or three ringleaders that were concealed in the mountains; in this they succeeded. The whole of the villages on the coast of the island, except a stretch of some half-dozen miles, were examined. The people were, without exception, found to be harmless and friendly, but very shy. Practically the whole island is covered by dense forest. The population is scanty, living in small villages of a few houses each.

The Yela language is difficult to learn, and by no means easy to write. The people have lived in the strictest seclusion, never intermarrying with, or visiting the tribes on other islands.

12. On the 16th August a visit was begun to the D'Entrecasteaux and neighbouring groups of Islands.

It was intended to hold a sitting of the Central Court at Bakera, on the west side of Duau Island, but this could not be carried out on account of boisterous weather and the absence of witnesses.

At Dobu there had been erected a fine, large, substantial church, built by the natives, as far as they could assist in such

work, without payment. It is capable of accommodating 500 people. The native teachers were establishing themselves, without any trouble, among the different tribes. Visits were made to some obstreperous tribes that had tried to bully those that were coming under missionary influence. Some inland villages had threatened to defy the Government, but they had no heart to attempt that when the pinch came. The most influential man in the Boio district of Fergusson was formally installed as chief; and the most important native of Dobu was appointed chief of that place. Two natives were made local policemen for Dobu.

Nearly all the villages on or near Dawson's Strait were called at. The inhabitants were evidently all settling down fast into a quiet and peaceful state, largely owing to the influence of the Wesleyan mission among them. Their chief trouble arose from the dread of sorcery.

A detachment of constabulary was landed at Kiletu, on the east of Fergusson, because it had been reported at Dobu that a murder had been committed there. The force met with a friendly reception, and it was found that the report was untrue. The constabulary also went to Murua, and remained some days among the principal tribes there, but were not successful in arresting a native accused of participating in a murder two or three years ago.

The condition of the Nada Islands was found to be satisfactory. By careful observations made at each end of Kiriwina Island its length was found to be about twenty-four geographical miles. A call was made at each of the villages on Vakuta Island. The principal village has the same name, and is of unusually large size. The people appeared to be perfectly peaceful and very friendly, and to give more than ordinary obedience to their chief. Food was very abundant. The populous Kiriwina villages of Sinaketa and Oburaka warmly welcomed the party. These people have probably the best fishing ground in the Possession, and are extremely active and industrious in their habits. The great tribe of Kavatari was seen to be living quietly and at peace with its neighbours. The members of this tribe are exceedingly keen traders. A stay of some days was made in the neighbourhood of Kaibola, near the north end of Kiriwina Island. All the villages were inspected, and an official visit was received at Kaibola from the great chief of the group. His family claim to be the only chiefly stock, and declare that all others are subject to them. This claim is admitted both in theory and in practice on Kiriwina and on all the neighbouring islands. The opinion was formed, after seeing a good deal of the interior of the islands, that, from the point of view of fertility of soil, Kiriwina and Kaileuna are the gardens of the Possession; the soil consists of a thin layer of chocolate-coloured earth on coral limestone, which, with a large rainfall, is extremely productive.

Very good anchorage for ships was found in the strait between the two large islands of the group (Kiriwina and Kaileuna).

On the 27th, there was an opportunity of seeing the Dobu congregation at Sunday service in their principal church. An

arrest made by the constabulary and Dobu police during the night had alarmed the people, but, in spite of that, from 250 to 300 were present. The behaviour of the natives was, in every respect, most exemplary. It was found that Mrs. Bromilow and the two young lady lay sisters were doing valuable work. A review of the labours of the mission over the whole district showed clearly that the Fijian teachers are better suited than any others for dealing with the Papuans, as they are very successful in gaining the confidence, respect, and affection of this people.

The Anglican mission of Wedau, on the mainland, was found to be making some progress, but it was very short handed.

The constabulary were landed at the Radawa villages in Goodenough Bay, but were not successful in securing certain persons accused of assault or murder committed there.

Between Radawa and the head of the bay there were only two small native settlements, and the land is steep and unfit for cultivation near the sea. At the upper end of the bay, on its north-east side, there are many villages in a district called Paiwa. Darkness and bad weather obliged a small and weak party, with an undermanned boat, to remain there during the night. The natives, though they invited the party to land, were thievish and thought of murdering their guests, and were with some difficulty kept under control.

A large force landed next day to demand restitution of the stolen goods, and was vigorously attacked when the leading man of the place was arrested. In the fight that ensued several natives were killed and wounded, but the chief was secured, taken away, and brought to trial.

13. On the 8th October, a tour of inspection westward from Port Moresby was begun. The first call was a compulsory one made at Boera, less than half a score of miles from Port Moresby, in consequence of the steamer grounding on a shoal and having to remain there till high water. At a public meeting held in the village, it was decided by the natives that they should build a substantial, creditable church for themselves. All was found satisfactory at Ravao (Yule Island) and Delena.

A visit was paid to Bioto. At this place the Sacred Heart mission was formerly represented by a lay brother, but no member of any mission has lived there for some time now.

The people of Rapa and Akabara received the party kindly and hospitably, and seemed to be living in profound peace, because, as the chief said, "they were all afraid to fight."

The Mohu tribe were uneasy, because they had been to some extent involved in intertribal disturbances which were not yet of remote date; they also shared the view of the father of the Sacred Heart mission stationed there, that they should be allowed to bury their dead in their dwelling-houses, and they had therefore been disobeying the Burial Regulation; one of them had also recently threatened the father with violence. The heads

of families were remonstrated with, and the opinion was formed that the Mohu difficulties would disappear before quiet firmness on the part of the Government.

There was at first some misgiving shown by the people of Babiko. A lay brother of the Sacred Heart mission is stationed there—a most exemplary, industrious, hard-working, kindly man, one of those persons that live oblivious of self, and solely for the good of others. Some of the men of the Babiko had broken into his house and stolen from him. He wished them to be warned against such things in future. They declared they would never steal any more, and were, on the intercession of the brother, let off with an admonition. He was building good houses, was planting cocoanuts, and had made, and was using, a horse track to Mohu.

The Yeku village was quiet and orderly, making progress in building and settlement under the teaching of the genial lay brother stationed there. Some of the people seemed to still retain a longing for their old village, where most of the cocoanut trees are. The new village is conveniently placed on the left bank of the Angabunga River, and was built on the re-settlement of the tribe after their attack on the Inawabui. The chief of Eboa sent his son and a retinue to Yeku, to pay his official duty there.

A party starting from Yeku went first to the two old villages of Inawaia and thence to Inawabui. The former tribe, assisted by the Ebba people, had some time before this attacked Inawabui, killed several people, and been punished by the Government, the war chief of the tribe, and the chief's son, with others, having been captured and awarded long terms of imprisonment. The Inawaia people did not show distrust or alarm, but wished to join the party proceeding to Inawabui. The latter people were hospitable to the first arrivals of the party, but they could not muster up sufficient confidence to wait in their village to receive the Inawaia men, but, taking up their spears, most of them dispersed into the bush. After the greater part of the visitors had been sent away, the principal man and other leading personages came to the village and discussed the situation. They declared they were not distrustful of the Government, but were alarmed by the presence of so many men from Inawaia. Both tribes asserted that they wished for peace. There seemed to be good grounds for believing that there might be no further collision between the two tribes.

The village of Inawa, some members of which had formerly been punished for robbery of mission property, and for offering resistance to the Government Agent of the district, was found to be quiet and peaceful.

Official visits were made at the Government station by all the principal chiefs of the district, except from one tribe, which had some little time previously threatened to attack another, because a girl of the former had made a runaway match with a man of the latter.

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A detachment of the constabulary was quartered for some days in the village of the would-be aggressors. All other tribes were living in harmony.

A short visit to Inawi made it clear that the excellent missionary there, the Rev. Father Vitali, had made a very good commencement. Unfortunately the Angabunga River had been greatly flooded and the Inawi lands had been some time under water, which made fever prevalent. One of the sisters stationed there had died, and the father and the lay brother had suffered much. Still they had put up good buildings, including a church that could accommodate 400 to 500 people. The Government Station was in good order; a large number of imported economic plants were doing well.

On the 12th October a halt was made at the village of Pinapaka. All available land near this village has been planted with cocoanuts but there is a scarcity of land for ordinary cultivation. The people have had among them a persevering, patient lay brother of the Sacred Heart mission.

The populous villages of Maiva were found to be fast becoming a settled and orderly community. Two bodies had, however, been buried in the villages, contrary to the Burial Regulation; but these were speedily removed, and interred in the cemetery before the matter had been reported officially. Sunday was spent there. The four teachers of the London Missionary Society, who work there, preached to full churches, and seemed to have a good hold on the people. Sunday was strictly observed by all.

The principal chief and many men came from Kivori to Maiva to make an official call. They also had disobeyed the Burial Regulation, but speedily remedied the matter, as had been done at Maiva. In no other respect did these tribes appear to have offended against any law.

There was some friction between Kivori and Waikupa, the first tribe west of it, because the daughter of the chief of the former had eloped with a Waikupa man. This latter village was visited by a detachment of constabulary, but there was nothing for them to do there.

All was quiet and satisfactory at Yokea, a station of the London Missionary Society. The tribes that are under the tuition of this mission from Maiva and Yokea were manifesting very considerable trading activity in sandalwood and copra.

14. The Biaru River (Coombes of the charts) was ascended for two days in a whale-boat. The first two miles lie through mangroves, then its course traverses flat alluvial lands with grass or sparse forests. The village of Apanaipi is on its right bank, about fourteen miles from its mouth, and consists of fifteen houses. The inhabitants were all occupied in obtaining sandalwood. It is a sort of half-way-house between Mekeo and Freshwater Bay, frequented by the natives of each.

The river is suitable for transport as far as Apanaipi. The ascent of the Biaru was continued for about a dozen miles beyond

Apanaipi. It takes a southward trend, and the banks become lower and swampy. The chief men of the tribe of Aipea, who live not far from the river, about a score of miles from its mouth, came to express gratitude for the protection the name of the Government had been to them in stopping their extermination by large neighbouring tribes.

Several years' work of the London Missionary Society have greatly changed the habits of the Lese tribe. Lese is a large village on the coast, and was found to be progressing satisfactorily.

15. It had been reported to the Government that two men of the Toaripi tribe had killed a small boy for the sole object of taking a human life. A strong detachment of constabulary was sent there to arrest the murderers. This was effected without any trouble, by the co-operation of a chief that owes his training and enlightenment entirely to the Rev. James Chalmers. The lands of Toaripi are very low, but the people are unusually industrious and persevering in contending with the water, which is always threatening to submerge their gardens.

At Toaripi it was said that a murder had been committed at Karama, on the other side of Freshwater Bay, and that the tribes of that place meant to defy the Government. There are four large villages there, but the murder was of the ordinary retaliatory type, and the homicide was arrested, and removed without any serious disturbance, although this was the first official visit to the place.

A brief glance at the work done by the London Missionary Society from Maiva to Carama was considered to reflect the greatest credit on the Rev. James Chalmers. Not only had that gentleman effected an incalculable amount of good through religious teaching, but he had also shown the people that they must respect and obey the Government and laws of the Queen.

16. In the end of February, two distinguished officers in the service of Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands—Resident Bensbach, of Ternate, and Captain J. Van Afferden, met certain of the principal officers of the Possession, at Thursday Island, to proceed to the British-Dutch boundary in New Guinea, to look for some natural workable boundary between the two territories which could be substituted for the 141st degree of east longitude. The need for this arose from the periodical harrying invasions of the British coast-line by certain tribes having their homes in Dutch New Guinea. After examining the ground, it was mutually agreed to recommend the respective Governments to adopt the mouth of a freshwater river called "The Bensbach," as the boundary on the coast. Its approximate position where it debouches, is 141° 1′ 48″ east longitude, and 9° 7′ 35″ south latitude. The proposed boundary proceeds on that longitude to the Fly River, then along that river upwards till it cuts the 141st degree of east longitude, and along that degree of longitude to the point where the British, Dutch, and German boundaries meet on the 5th degree of south latitude.

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17. In consequence of a report of very serious disturbances, on what seemed good authority, a visit was paid in March to Wabuda Island, in the northern half of the Fly estuary. The Wabuda tribe had attacked, first one and then another neighbouring tribe, and had secured a large number of human heads for dedicatory purposes in connection with new canoes or a new building. The Kiwai chiefs volunteered to assist by their presence and counsel. Two of them were taken as interpreters. It was ascertained soon after reaching Wabuda that many of the warriors were absent on a neighbouring island fishing and hunting. Two or three arrests were made at the two Wabuda villages; and all canoes were secured, so that the absent men could not be communicated with during the night. Next day a number of men were arrested by intercepting the canoes as they crossed from Umudu to Wabuda. No resistance was offered, although they were all heavily armed. The war chief of the tribe was not in the flotilla; he had been wounded in the last inter-tribal fight, and had been left on the island of Umudu, where he was arrested next morning by the constabulary. Sixteen men in all were secured, but it was found that the man that ranked next to the war chief in mischief was not there, but had gone away to some other island on a visit. Before the party reached Kiwai Island on the homeward journey, the Kiwai local policemen had arrested this man, and he was in due course handed over to the Government officers.

At a meeting held with the Wabuda tribe after the arrest were made, the whole situation was discussed, and the tribe was practically settled. They even came out to the "Albatross" with food and little things for their friends among the prisoners.

The whole undertaking was, without any bloodshed, very satisfactory in its results.

Visit of Inspection to the Gulf of Papua, and exploration of the Rivers flowing thereinto.

18. On the 9th January an inspection of the Lakekamu River was begun where it enters the sea at Toaripi. Within the first four miles two side creeks lead from the Lakekamu to Mobiabi and the Tauri River. The first dozen miles pass through many sago groves, then the ground gradually rises, producing a mixture of sago, padanus, and mangrove trees, then bread-fruit, paper-bark, and general forest. The lower reaches belong to Toaripi; all the upper portion, as far as traversed, is claimed by Mobiabi; but there are no permanent settlements on the river after leaving Toaripi.

After the first score of miles is passed, there are large areas of fine deep alluvial soil, covered by great forest trees. At two score of miles low wooded hills are reached. At nearly fifty miles from the sea the river divides into two nearly equal branches. From

the sea to this junction there would apparently never be less than one fathom of water in the river channel. There is a large quantity of fine land fit for settlement on this river—land at present unoccupied—well adapted for growing sugar-cane, corn, tea, and coffee.

19. The party passed by boat through winding creeks from the Lakekamu to the Mapu River, and by the latter to Mobiabi village on the Tauri River. The greater portion of the country within four or five miles of the sea is mangrove swamp. There are some small native settlements on the Mapu; there are many people at Mobiabi.

The Tauri, for about a dozen miles, is about 100 yards wide, and from one to two fathoms deep. Good land begins about Mobiabi, but it is not more than a foot or two above high-water mark; it is covered by cocoanut, sago, and bread-fruit trees, mixed with gardens and grass patches, with paper-bark trees in the distance. At about a score of miles there is much good planting land, from one to three yards high, some of it covered by old forests of large trees. The upper portions of the river are visited only occasionally by the Mabiabi tribe for fishing and hunting; they have a few small gardens there also, but there is no permanent occupation. There would be a considerable area of good land available for European settlement on the Tauri. It has not much sago on its course in comparison to what was seen on the Lakekamu.

20. On the 22nd a visit was made to Karama. The people were peaceful and kind, but showed some suspicion when the moment of departure came. This mistrust was not shared by the chief, who wished to accompany the party westward. The creek there was ascended for about four miles. It traverses excellent garden land until it reaches the hills. Shortly before this the South Sea Island teacher stationed here had died at his post.

The several villages near the sea between Karama and Kerema were all friendly disposed, but there was not time to visit them all. There is no useful unoccupied land on the coast there.

A short halt was made at the village of Ipisi, on the east side of Kerema Bay. The community is a poor one, and is in every way rather backward. The people are timid but friendly. The lagoon and inlets behind Ipisi were examined. There are two villages behind Ipisi belonging to the same tribe. The lagoon is surrounded by low wooded hills on all sides save that next the sea.

A teacher of the London Missionary Society nad well established himself in Kerema by three years' work. He lives in the Uaripi village. The population of Kerema may be about 1,000, of whom about a score attend church, but the chief is not among the number. They complained of acts of hostility by an inland tribe called Opao. Kerema is wealthy and independent, having permanent riches in sago and cocoanuts. The second large village of the community was also visited. They seemed to be a kindly,

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peacefully-disposed people; they closely resemble the Karama and Toaripi tribes.

Several miles of unoccupied sea frontage, fit for growing cocoanut trees, were seen in the long bay that lies east of the Bailala River.

21. On the 22nd January the mouth of the Bailala was reached. There are two large villages there, the inhabitants of which are numerous and formerly were very wild, but they have been much influenced by the teaching af the London Missionary Society.

This river is fresh at the mouth, and there was no current up its channel during flood-tide. None of the natives had been more than twenty miles up it. There are some cocoanut groves near the mouth of the river; then it presents a mixture of mangrove, pandanus, bread-fruit, and cocoanut trees. At ten or twelve miles from the sea the whole country near the river is rich, deep alluvial soil, and practically unoccupied.

At a score of miles fine, low, heavily-wooded hills begin, apparently well suited for agricultural purposes. The first branch was a small navigable one coming in from the east, with low hills on its north, and fine alluvial land on its south, side. A tribe called Hakeko was found about fifty miles up the river. They said they counted about sixty men and four villages. They do not belong to any peculiar inland race, but are, judging from their language, houses, dress, customs, and personal appearance, a lost offshoot of the Bailala tribe. When the first surprise was over, they were peaceful, friendly, and hospitable. They said they are the only dwellers in that part of the country. They had no iron, but made some rude clay vessels. None of them were naked. They grow tobacco and smoke it.

The third score of miles of the Bailala traverses some very fine alluvial agricultural country, generally too dry for sago.

The fourth score of miles passes through low wooded hills separated by deep alluvial forest land. Hunting shelters were seen there, but no natives. At about eighty miles rapids begin in the river, and at places there is only from three to five feet of water.

The mountains of the main central range were still a score of miles distant in a straight line from where the party turned back; all country that lay between was either flat, or had at places low wooded hills.

Clearly there is much unoccupied land fit for tropical agriculture on the Bailala River. The water carriage to and from it would be excellent.

22. On the 31st January an overland journey was made from the Bailala to the coast village of Haru and thence to Orokolo. The country traversed was flat, cut up by salt water creeks, the soil sandy, growing cocoanut, sago, and fruit trees.

There is no teacher at Haru. The people were quiet, kind, and hospitable. The tribe is not a large one.

At Orokolo there has been a station of the London Missionary Society for many years. In the group of villages, all on the beach, there may be 1,500 people. The land is flat and sandy, with groves of cocoanuts for about half-a-dozen miles along the sea-shore. The people seem to live at peace among themselves and with their neighbours.

23. On the 1st February an examination was begun of the great Purari River. The mouths of this river were first discovered by the Rev. James Chalmers, but they and part of the river itself above its delta were first systematically explored and mapped by Mr. Theodore Bevan. The two most easterly mouths are the Alele and Aivei, each nearly a mile wide at the mouth, but with many sand and mud banks. The country near them is nearly all mangrove swamp. Apiope is a small village on the Aivei, the inhabitants of which are, to a very considerable extent, under the influence of the misson. They are a small swarm off the great Maipua tribe. They were found to be quiet and friendly.

A short call was made at Maipua. It is on an inlet, about half-a-mile from the sea, and must contain nearly 2,000 inhabitants. Nothing can be seen all round but mangrove swamp. There is no teacher there. Several groups were at first armed with bows and arrows, but these arms were soon laid aside. The probability is that there were among them some people that had left Apiope the night before on account of a petty theft. The attitude of the people was friendly, but somewhat reserved. The appearance of the tribe was wonderfully healthy for such an environment. They professed to be a peaceful tribe, but of course no reliance could be given to their statements in that respect.

The Aivei and Alele join about four miles from the sea and form the Purari. For the first half-dozen miles the banks are covered by mangrove only, and these at half-a-score of miles become mixed with pandanus and sago trees, but there is no real dry land for about a score of miles. At the inner end of the delta the Purari gives off the Kairu, fully thirty miles by water from the sea. There is no native occupation there. The land is all flat, and was one to two yards above the water in the river, covered by forest, with occasional sago swamps. The soil is sandy alluvial.

Just above the bifurcation the Purari is about half a-mile wide, and one fathom deep. Half-a-score of miles beyond that again the banks rise, the soil is not sandy, and the trees are larger. Low hills begin about the same place, and the land is suitable for cultivation.

At some two dozen miles above the bifurcation the river approaches the first mountain, and for a dozen miles passes along in a nearly straight north-west direction close to its base. Specimens of rock from this mountain, which is over 2,000 feet high, have been pronounced to be sandstone and calcareous sandstone. On the south side of the river are low, heavily-wooded hills, with low intervening valleys.

Some seventy-five miles from the sea there is the first considerable branch. The highest distance reached was, by the river course, about four score miles from the sea. The river there was about 300 to 400 yards broad, and at least three or four fathoms deep, but it was much swollen from rain that had fallen the previous day.

On the north side, at a distance of three or four miles, there was a rough mountain, probably 3,000 feet high, on the south side low wooded hills and rich alluvial valleys, but no native settlement.

The Barori, Arai, and Wame were all successively traversed. It may be doubted if there is any land sufficiently high for permanent European cultivation below the bifurcation of the Purari. The upper portion of the delta was probably one to two yards above the then level of the river, but it seems not improbable that it is occasionally flooded. There is much sago on the delta, but not many cocoanut trees. The greater portion of the delta is mangrove swamp.

A call was made at the village of Koropenaira and also at the Arai villages. The inhabitants are numerous and very noisy. At first, when taken by surprise, they rushed to arms, but no collision took place, and they were quite friendly. They were lively, healthy and very robust, though all round them for many miles was swamp and nearly all covered by mangroves. This part of the delta is greatly cut up by reticulating water channels, meeting and forking in all directions. A camp was formed on the sea-coast near Marikimiro Point, and communication opened with the natives of the vicinity. They said they knew Mr. Chalmers. Many of them brought food to camp for sale. They did not come armed. Their three villages on the Kaimare were visited and found to contain a very large population; they were friendly but somewhat shy and reserved in the absence of their principal chiefs. The neighbourhood of these villages is all mangrove swamp, which is cut up by a network of water channels. The people, of course, live chiefly on sago.

24. After reaching the head of Port Romilly, the party examined the Pie Creek. Its banks at the lower end are covered by mangroves; the banks soon become a little higher, and at four to five miles from its mouth they present alternate mangrove and forest. There are no inhabitants.

The Wame was then traversed to the Baroi. The country between the Baroi and Port Romilly is all swampy, covered chiefly by nipa palms and mangroves. On the Wame there is, however, the small village of Evarra, with a population of 200 or 300. The land there is high enough to grow sago, bread-fruit, taro, and bananas. This tribe resembles the Maipua people in all respects; it is a weak tribe, and, therefore, peaceful.

The Kapaina Horn of Port Romilly was next inspected. It is a salt water extension of the inlet. Sixteen or eighteen miles up it is a hundred yards wide, and is still salt water and full of jelly fish. At from ten to fifteen miles there is slightly higher land, and the mangrove is mixed with, or entirely displaced by, forest trees;

but beyond that again it becomes lower and is all swampy. The water becomes fresh at about a score of miles. A tribe called Ipikoi was met with near its head; but there was no appearance of any permanent occupation. No passage from Kapaina into the Era Inlet could be found. But a channel was met with leading from Port Romilly through the mangrove to the Aia, on which is the village of Baimuru. This tribe has all the peculiarities of those of the Purari delta, but it is not nearly so strong as some of those tribes; the people were very quiet, friendly, and hospitable, but were shy and timid at the same time.

25. Era Inlet was next examined. It has no inhabitants. Its banks, and the country for many miles inland, consist of nipa and mangrove swamp. No passage could be found from it into the Kapaina or into Port Romilly. An inlet from the west side of Era Bay was followed up about half a score of miles in search of fresh water. There it was about a dozen yards wide and still brackish. It does not seem to even get beyond the mangrove and nipa swampy ground. There is no permanent occupation on it.

A sandy beach, with a thin fringe of cocoanut trees in front of the great mangrove swamps, lies between Era Bay and Kaa, the inlet next west of Era. A number of men of the Miniao tribe were met with there. They were very shy, but quite friendly. They did not readily understand the language of Maipua, nor that of the Fly Estuary; but still it was possible to converse a little with them. Their district is all mangrove swamp with spots dry enough to grow a few cocoanut trees. They doubtless have sago swamps somewhere.

The Paia Inlet was next followed up. There is nothing save mangrove and nipa swamp on each side of it, and no visible occupation. The channel, continued from its upper end, was followed north beyond the Aird Hills some half-dozen miles. The whole country was swampy as far as this furthest point, and there the tide rose and fell eight or nine feet. At about five-and-twenty miles the water was fresh, when it began to enter between some low wooded hills. A channel from the south-east connecting with this one, north of the Aird Hills, was followed in returning; but it contained salt water and traversed only uninhabited swampy country, in which there are a great many intersecting waterways.

The country lying between Paia Inlet and Era Bay was traversed on the 17th February. That district is of the same swampy nature, there being very little land dry enough to grow even the wild bread-fruit tree. It is nearly all mangrove and nipa swamp. A large tribe was met with there. They did not understand either the Maipuan or Fly Estuary language, and even their name could not be ascertained, but they resembled the coast tribes east and west of them in other respects. They seemed very ready to use their weapons, but friendly intercourse was opened and maintained, and presents exchanged.

26. The country lying west of the Bailala River does not seem to be suited for permanent European settlement anywhere near the

coast. No doubt there is fine land some two score of miles up the Purari, but, with that exception, there is nothing west of the Bailala River that seems very inviting, while the coast navigation is treacherous on account of dirty water and sandbanks.

No high mountains were seen in the interior in this western country—probably nothing exceeding 8,000 or 9,000 feet.

A very high estimate was formed of the labours of the Rev. James Chalmers among the Gulf tribes.

27. On the 11th May a short visit of inspection was begun at Ravoa, (Yule Island). All was working quietly and satisfactorily there. The two native villages were inspected and found to be clean and comfortable. A Malay lay brother keeps school there, and had about 50 scholars. The natives had become afraid that they would be removed from the island, which did not originally belong to them, but they were reassured on that point.

Nothing required any administrative action at the villages of Rapa or Yeku.

An opportunity presented itself of seeing the demeanour of the Inawi people at church on the Sabbath. About 300 attended service. The Rev. Father Vitali has established an excellent system of order and discipline in the congregation, which is all but identical with that so successfully practised by the Rev. W. Bromilow at Dobu.

The Inawi mission has been, in the hands of Father Vitali, a very clear and decided success in every way. Unfortunately he and his fellow-workers do not enjoy good health there.

On the 15th all the chiefs above Babiko, with the exception of Yeku, arrived at the Government station to officially report themselves. There was nothing amiss to report except some village burials.

The station was in a satisfactory condition, the imported plants generally looking well.

A short halt was made at Oriropetana, where all seemed to be in good order.

The resident lay brother was building a good substantial house at Yeku, but teaching had not yet commenced.

Babiko was found to be progressing very satisfactorily under the lay brother stationed there.

The Mohu community, though the longest under mission teaching, was still the most backward in the district; but the difficulty connected with village burials seemed to be at an end.

The inhabitants of Delena, Nara, and Isiu, were too much occupied in procuring sandalwood.

A chiefess and a policeman were appointed at Nara.

The whole of the country visited seemed to be thoroughly pacified.

28. A visit paid by Mr. Kowald to the villages situated on the upper reaches of the Angabunga River, in the Mekeo Range, was of considerable importance. It was found that from an agricultural point of view the district is not of much value.

Traces of gold have always been found in the lower stretches of the river, but Mr. Kowald's party did not succeed in finding where it comes from.

29. The visits made by Mr. Lawes to the new villages by which the sphere of his duties as magistrate was extended in his Division were of much interest.* As in the case of Mr. Kowald's extension of his authority to new villages, no collision or trouble occurred with the natives. This was the more likely to arise in one of Mr. Lawes' visits, as it was made to a district from which Dr. Loria was driven away by the natives in a hostile attack made by them on his party, after some quarrel about food.

REPORTS BY OFFICERS.

Reports for the year from the four Resident Magistrates, the two Government Agents, and the Commandant were duly furnished.

30. The Resident Magistrate for the Western Division points out that many of the coast natives of the west have been for years in contact with pearl-shellers, and have contracted a strong desire for clothes. The small traders on the coast are, with one exception, too poor to be fair employers of labour. The want of regular and congenial employment for the natives is much felt, and the Resident Magistrate appear to think the young men should be allowed employment beyond the Possession. This is allowed now, if the boats they are employed on are located in this Colony. Employers can be found for them in other districts. The natural fishing grounds of the Possession have been annexed to the Colony of Queensland, and hence boats are not frequently located on the British New Guinea side. The tribes of the interior appear pacific, although suspicious, from being long hunted by the coast men; but their mutual relations are fast becoming satisfactory now. The Tugeri, from Dutch New Guinea, did not visit the coast during the year, so far as the Magistrate can judge.

The two native magistrates and the ten or twelve village policemen on the whole did their work well; the best service, however, being done by those of a village a few miles from the coast. The Fly River policemen are said to have behaved excellently and some of their chiefs also did good work. They, however, require much teaching and supervision, as their duties are entirely new to them.

There was little crime in the part of the Division that is under control; that area was extended to several new tribes during the year.

Three cases of adultery came before the Court, and the magistrate says, that, as the operation of this law is extended, great good will ensue.

* Not printed.

Some improvement was made in building houses in a few of the villages, in the direction of doing away with one house for a whole tribe.

There is no house or village burial in the district.

The health of the men on the station was good.

The number of natives engaged before the magistrate for service was 84.

Much extra work was caused by the transfer of the Government Station to the island of Daru, a much more suitable position, especially for shipping.

31. The Resident Magistrate for the Central Division describes the year as having been one of "plenty," one effect of which has been a difficulty in obtaining native labourers.

An inland tribe called Vea menaced some of the coast tribes in Cloudy Bay.

Some eighteen new inland villages never touched at before by Europeans were visited, some of them at elevations of 2,000 to 3,000 feet. They were suspicious but not unfriendly. Some of their country was considered to possess rich soil. It is noteworthy that cocoanut trees were seen doing well at an altitude of 3,000 feet. Certain far inland districts were found to be thickly populated.

The fact is noted that two canoes with thirty seven men came a distance along the coast of some 200 miles to seek for work at Port Moresby. They called fearlessly at the coast villages all the way. Some arrests were made in the Gulf part of the Division for the first time, some resistance being offered at one place.

Village constables and Government chiefs have been added to during the year, and the Magistrate thinks this will be a great deterrent to crime. Certain villages now pique themselves on their record for good behaviour, and boast that none of them have been in gaol.

It is pointed out that only Kabadi, of all coast tribes in this Division, has made no progress. It will not be got under proper control until an officer can stay there for some time and appoint local policemen.

The Magistrate visited during the year 120 different villages.

The natives are often anxious to sell land they do not use, and to have settlers among them, but they sometimes refuse to sell.

The Native Magistrates' Courts he has found to work very satisfactorily.

No less than seventy permits were issued to non-Europeans to possess and use firearms in this Division.

32. The Resident Magistrate for the Eastern Division says in his report that the natives are settling down to a peaceable existence, and to recognise the power of the Government.

In remote parts that cannot be visited, inter-tribal animosities are still carried on to some extent, while many tribes that were hereditary enemies have laid aside their fighting gear for ever.

He finds superstition and witchcraft the most difficult things to deal with.

Certain chiefs come to Samarai to report regularly on their districts.

A great many natives came to Samarai for work during the year, as many as one hundred and twenty being sometimes employed in swamp-filling, clearing land, &c. The women work best.

A small amount of food was grown on the island, but most of what was required was purchased.

It was found to be cheaper to buy sago from the natives than to employ them to make it on Samarai.

The lugger for the Division has turned out well, but is found to be too small for the work.

33. The Resident Magistrate for the South-eastern Division (Louisiades) reports that the natives of Misima still remained distrustful and timid, requiring frequent visits. The health of the men on the station was sometimes good, at other times it was feverish.

They cleared and planted several acres of land at Nivani, the new Government station for the Division, and put in some 250 cocoa-nut plants. The Magistrate unfortunately could not obtain native labour. He complains that the natives neglect their own gardens. A number of people died of influenza during the year. He regrets the transfer of the Rev. S. B. Fellows from Pannieti to another station.

Mining matters were quiet. No payable reef has been struck. The relations between the diggers and the natives have been good; thieving by the latter has been less prevalent; but much temptation is put in their way. The health of the diggers was fairly good.

34. The Government Agent for Mekeo, states that the behaviour of the natives was satisfactory during the year, all living at peace. There were two murders in the district, both "woman" cases. Most of the tribes have become reconciled to each other, and those that have not done so are afraid to break the peace. Many of them were at work procuring sandalwood. The relations between natives and traders have been uniformly amicable. Two tribes have purchased sailing boats. Inter-tribal communication has been greatly extended. Many of them are anxious to receive new plants and seeds.

Some of them begin to build better houses on the half European model they have seen at the Government station.

Certain of the inland chiefs that had never seen the sea before paid a visit to Port Moresby.

One homicide escaped to the mountains and was not captured

The Burial Regulation is now generally complied with, and cases of village burial are now not common; but in the early part of the year they gave much trouble.

The health of those employed at the station was satisfactory.

35. The Government Agent for Rigo notes the greatly improved moral condition of the natives of his district during the year.

The sphere of influence was extended, and the Government work is becoming better understood.

Natives begin to look to the Government for advice on all matters.

The influence of the chief recognised by Government is growing.

There was only one case of murder in the district during the year; adultery and infanticide are becoming rare.

There is difficulty in enforcing the Burial Regulation in some of the inland villages, but still great progress has been made in that direction.

The year was remarkable for visits between tribes formerly enemies or strangers and unknown to each other.

Food was plentiful. A number of people died of epidemic pleurisy—probably influenza.

A great many cases not included in the Court returns were settled out of Court.

The health of the people at the station was good.

36. The Commandant, in his Report, only refers to the last five months of the year. He enumerates the villages he visited—56 in all; the force in that period arrested 30 persons.

Most of the old men left the force towards the end of the year, and their place was taken by recruits.

The health of the men was good.

NATIVE HABITS AND CUSTOMS.

37. Ever since the declaration of Sovereignty, as much attention as possible has been given to the peculiar usages, customs, and habits of the natives.

It has been felt that no man, or body of men, can rule justly and wisely a people with whose customs, usages, and inner life they are unacquainted.

In legislation and in executive administration it is imperative that, in a country such as this is, with a mere handful of Europeans and a numerous savage and semi-savage population, the officers of the Government should not only become acquainted with the hereditary and traditional customs of the natives, but that they should also know their superstitions, their aims, their inter-tribal family and domestic polity, and even their prejudices.

These subjects have been pressed upon the attention of officers, not in the interests of scientific anthropology, but to secure the broad basis on which a just and suitable executive government can be established and carried on.

The difficulties in the way are great, and such as could hardly be appreciated by one not tried by them.

A certain number of men regard such work as mere dilettanteism, and, not seeing its importance, do not lend it enthusiasm, and therefore do not succeed.

One requires considerable knowledge of natives to be able to make a commencement even; and in this country there are, of necessity, comparatively many changes in the *personnel* of officers.

It is felt by each officer that his contribution to this subject for the present Report is merely fragmentary. Much of what is now stated is advanced with reserve, and may be subject to correction as knowledge becomes extended.

It is the more necessary that this should be pointed out, because, although there is a general line of custom running through the actions of natives here, still they are such great opportunists, that there are few natives that would not for some tempting gain to themselves, act contrary to custom and according to the demands of their own personal advantage.

38. Mr. Hely, Resident Magistrate for the Western Division, says that in all marriages the woman takes the initiative. She sends for the man to visit her. These are love marriages and do not cause trouble to the authorities; but very frequently such a marriage leads to another in which the sister-in-law of the bride is given in marriage in exchange, whatever may be her inclination; this is a form of oppression that will cause some strife in future.

Polygamy is common. It is based seldom on sensuality, but generally on the theory that the more wives a man has the more comfortable he will be. The custom is universal in the Possession. There is so far no legal bar to it, and the usage seems inclined to disappear before missionary influence, but it may before long be prudent to deal with it by a Native Regulation to prevent future polygamous unions, while recognizing accomplished facts.

In that district the widow enjoys a much better position than is generally the case. In too many districts they are the chattels of the brother-in-law, or even of a step-child, and they have but too much cause to lament the death of their husbands. But they begin, like other women, to find out that if oppressed they can appeal to a Government officer.

Infidelity on the part of the wife was punished by the murder of the adulterer. That may perhaps be considered a general natural usage. Here it is being combated by a Native Regulation, under which both parties may be punished for adultery by imprisonment.

There has been no cannibalism to contend with in the west, nor, it may be said, elsewhere. No district is known to the

Government in which it was customary to eat human flesh. The skeletons of dead relatives are at times kept in the villages; the skulls of enemies are preserved as trophies of valour; occasionally, very rarely, the body of an enemy is cooked and partially eaten in bravado, and now and then a depraved or mad woman digs into a grave and eats a morsel of decomposing human flesh; but cannibal feasts, or people that always, or frequently, eat human flesh—like the historical cannibals of the Pacific—have not been met with here.

No special law has been passed dealing with skull trophies. Sometimes they are burned by the natives voluntarily, and others are broken up by officers. They are fast disappearing, but it is very surprising how many are kept in reserve to replace those destroyed.

Witchcraft causes as great trouble in the west as elsewhere. All over it has the same general features; a man prepares a small parcel of rubbish, which contains, if it is got ready for some specific case, a hair or something belonging to the individual that is to suffer. This little collection of garbage then has diabolical powers, and alarms people, sometimes sickening, and even killing them, by fear. A Native Regulation has been passed, under which the performer can be imprisoned. The fetish has been brought and delivered up voluntarily at several places.

39. The Resident Magistrate for the Eastern Division reports* that children are sometimes betrothed, and that these in most cases marry; but generally they make love matches, the husband giving some payment to the girl's father. Cases of oppression or compulsion in marriage are rare in the district. At Banarua, a dowry is given by the wife's father, but it is probably only a return present.

At Saraba the widow is the slave of the brother-in-law. At Naria the widow is not allowed to marry; but widows may do so at Banarua.

Polygamy is allowed, subject to the sanction of existing previous wives; this consent is seldom refused, as wives understand that their labour is lightened by dividing it.

40. The Resident Magistrate for the South-eastern Division (Louisiades) describes the burial of the dead, which seems to not be made in the district near the station in or near the house of the deceased. In some parts of the Division, however, it is very different; the dead body, or, in some tribes, only the head, is kept in the house in a decomposing condition, and the skull is sometimes preserved and kept in the house after it is cleaned. There will be some trouble over house burials on Yela (Rossel Island). There seems to be nothing to render marriage oppressive to the woman, as all appear to be matches of inclination; but the husband has to render too

* Not printed.

many services to the father-in-law, who never ceases to receive payment for his daughter.

From end to end of the Possession it is the general rule that the father receives payment for his daughter from her husband.

It has been said that infanticide was very common in this country; children born out of wedlock were undoubtedly often killed; but a legitimate daughter was, and is, a source of wealth—a valuable possession—which an avaricious Papuan would not readily destroy.

41. The Government Agent for Mekeo says that children are occasionally betrothed before birth, but betrothal usually takes place at puberty. The betrothed young man is a loafer until married. Obtaining a woman in marriage is usually synonymous with the ability to pay the father for the girl. A runaway marriage was not uncommon there, and used to be a frequent cause of war; it still creates much trouble if the woman is not well paid for afterwards. It has not been thought desirable to interfere with this custom of payment. Some tribes are indignant when the word "payment" is used in this connection, declaring vehemently that it is a present—a free gift and not a price.

Polygamy is practised as far as the man may be able to pay for additional wives.

Widows may marry again. Sorcerers cause trouble, and not infrequently oppress and torment their victims. The people generally would gladly see them put down, but fear keeps them from reporting their threats and swindles.

In that district the dead were buried in or near the house of the deceased; this practice probably came of affection. In dealing with this matter, effort has been made to respect the same sentiment by encouraging and directing the tribes to fence and ornament the cemeteries selected for them; some have done so, others will follow their example.

In and near to this district the period of probation for admission to manhood has one vexatious peculiarity; the probationer lives by the chase, or by his wits; by the former he would have but scanty fare, but he supplements it by stealing This requires no special legislation, but it is difficult to put an end to, because all men remember that they went through the same trial, and they, therefore, sympathise with the thief, and do not report his misappropriations. But this reverence for the past is doomed to disappear before the avariciousness of the Papuan.

The giving of feasts has been found to greatly interfere with work of all kinds in the Central Division. If food is abundant, that fact alone suggests a feast. Feasts are also made in connection with all the notable occurrences in the routine of ordinary life. It is extremely difficult to see how this evil, for it is becoming one, can be remedied.

42. Prohibition by the Taboo appears to be known in some form or other all over the Possession. In the Pacific it could be used, and has indeed in actual practice become of the very utmost

importance, for political purposes. Unfortunately it is not a powerful instrument anywhere in this country. Here it has never been grounded on any deep religious sentiment, and could not be enforced by any absolute, powerful chief; consequently it has never taken deep root. So far as is known at present it is used and respected only in order to store up food for a coming feast. It is most frequently applied to cocoanut and betelnut trees, but not exclusively so.

Men masked and disguised in fantastic dresses perambulate the village and the trees to be prohibited. In some places the prohibition is announced by a syren of wood on a string wielded by a fishing rod. It probably never applies to more than the products of one family or group of connected families. From the Fly River to the far east, branches, usually of sago, are tied on flat on the prohibited trees. Sometimes strings are put round gardens; branches are tied into the door of a house that is not to be entered, or are laid across a road that is not to be traversed. To lend some restraining influence to it, the mystery of disguise is given to those imposing it.

If natives are required to pay taxes in kind here, it will be very useful to possess a full knowledge of the working of the Taboo; at present very little is known about it.

43. The Government Agent for the Rigo District shows that young people are sometimes made to marry there contrary to their inclination. The wife is paid for.

In all districts it seems to be the rule that a couple cohabit before marriage.

The stage has hardly been reached yet when it will have to be considered whether a law should be passed to make such intercourse penal, as has been done with several places in the Pacific, in America, and elsewhere. It is a question on which all the mission bodies should be heard.

A study of the customs connected with burial in the Rigo district will show very clearly the double grounds on which a Native Regulation was passed to compel cemetery interment. It was needed for simple sanitary reasons; and it was required to stop the superstitious and malicious murder of perfectly innocent people. The dead bodies in that district were exposed on platforms in the village till so far decomposed that the epidermis peeled off readily, and indicated by the form and manner of exfoliation the person that had procuredor caused the death of the deceased.

NATIVE LAND TENURE.

44. This subject was felt to be so important that a special study has been made of it, and reports* have been prepared on a fixed plan. These cover fourteen tribes, but there are reports* from both Mr. Cameron and Mr. Hely on the Turi Turi and Mawatta septs. The various tenures, so far as they have been ascertained, have been duly studied.

* Not printed.

The period for which the communities have been in occupation of their present tribal lands varies greatly. Cases are known to the Government where tribal occupation dates back only from six to fifteen years. Some can count a certain number of generations—for example, four at Aroma and at Kemaria, ten at Kamale, and from time immemorial at Port Moresby, Pannieti, and Sariba.

It will be seen that individual ownership is everywhere recognised, and that lands are not allotted either annually or otherwise. In fact, there does not exist machinery or authority that could periodically apportion land, or that could enforce adhesion to any distribution. Speaking generally, a certain area of country, as a rule tolerably well defined, but as to its boundaries frequently disputed, is regarded as being the lands of a tribe; a member of the tribe does not trespass on the land that has been brought into use by another member of the same tribe; but any person of the tribe may take up and use unoccupied land. It is regarded as his land, at least for the time being, in virtue of occupation. Possession is usually held by the Papuan to be very nearly ten-tenths of the law.

It would appear that the land cannot pass out of the tribe by sale, gift, or inheritance.

The different adult members of one family often hold their lands in immediate proximity, and thus sometimes plant and fence in common; but the regular practice is, that absolute personal freedom is retained by the individual, and he clears, fences, and plants by himself. Even when they do fence in common, they generally cultivate individually.

It will be noticed that certain tribes have no common lands. These are surrounded by other tribes, so that the tribal area has a rigid boundary, while all land inside it has already been taken up by individuals.

45. There is great diversity as to the way land descends, thus:—

At Port Moresby all the land of the father and mother descends to the eldest child, whether male or female.

In the Rigo district it passes to the eldest son, if not arranged otherwise by the father, who may, however, divide it as he chooses.

At Sariba and Banarua it goes to brothers first.

At Nada the father's property goes back to his family; that of the mother goes to the children of the marriage, and they belong to the mother and to her tribe. Thus the father raises up children for the woman and her tribe, and not for his own tribe.

At Kabadi and other places the land seems to pass to the nephew, the son getting no share of it unless the nephew gives him some. Generally the heir does provide for the other members of the family.

About Dobu the husband's land becomes the property of his sister's children, while the wife's falls to her maternal uncles.

In some tribes women cannot hold land; in others they hold it evenly with men.

46. It is quite clear that they occasionally buy and sell land. The alienation of land is, therefore, not quite a new idea to them. They frequently lend land to be used for garden purposes, or even for crops like those of cocoanuts, which may endure for generations. They lease land in some tribes, generally for the payment of a royalty on the crop.

Very frequently the land belongs to one man and the trees on it to another, a matter that has carefully to be kept in sight in buying land from natives.

The subdivision of land is carried to an extent almost unknown elsewhere; thirty or forty people may appear as owners of a patch of two or three acres near a large village.

As a rule, game may be hunted by a member of the tribe anywhere on the tribal land, but others do not hunt there without the permission of the tribe to which the land belongs.

A person marrying out of one tribe into another does not transfer land from the one community to the other.

There is common tribal property in wild, but not in any domestic, animals.

There is considerable variation as to house sites.

In the west, where several hundred people may live in one house, the site usually belongs to one man, but the house, built by the community, belongs to them. In the Central District there is a tendency to grouping into "quarters," one for each set of related families, and each family head and householder has his own house site in the proper quarter.

It sometimes is found that all the land on which a village is built belongs to one man. In those cases the village is generally a comparatively young one; by right of occupation, and by the extinction of the original owner or owners, the different sites gradually become individual or family property.

NATIVE DIALECTS.

47. Four different vocabularies* of native dialects have been compiled during the year and one printed.

The Rev. S. B. Fellows has prepared an extremely interesting and instructive grammar and vocabulary of the Pannieti language. The grammar is so complete as to be almost exhaustive. It will be found well worthy of careful study as a point of departure for further work of the same kind in the east end of the Possession.

The Rev. Copland King supplies a wealthy vocabulary, with interesting grammatical notes, of the language spoken at Wedau, Wamira and Jiwari, on the north-east coast of the Colony.

* Not printed here.

Mr. Lawes, Secretary for Native Affairs, has compiled a vocabulary of the language spoken on the coast in the east end of the Gulf of Papua, from Kerema to Orokolo.

The same officer has also drawn up a small but practically sufficient vocabulary of the language of the Aroma—in their own language, Galoma—tribes, spoken from Vererupu to Paramana Point.

48. The great difficulty of language is gradually becoming less. In the east end of the Possession, the digger and the trader are propagating "pigeon" English. The vocabulary is not always eclectic, but it is very useful. It is not yet clear what may become the eastern native literary language. Probably the missions have not yet decided how far they will use or teach English there. The Sacred Heart mission propose to take a few young natives from the Mekeo district to Thursday Island, that they may learn English there. The London Missionary Society have successfully taught English to some of their pupils. One of them has been appointed a cadet in the office of the Treasurer. The constabulary do more than any other body to enable strange natives to understand each other. The men are from widely different districts. Thirty or forty men leave the force each year for their own villages, of which, if necessary, they become the mouthpiece in communicating with Europeans. The ordinary language of the constabulary is English or Motuan, the most widely known of all native dialects. So far no trace has been discovered of any language in the interior that is not connected with those on the coast, but this remark has reference only to the interior to the east of Kovio (Mount Yule). The language of the tribes met with by the Government Agent on the Mekeo Range is closely connected with the Mekeo dialect, which shows very plainly many Polynesian root words. Some of these are recognisable even at first hand in the dialect of the tribes visited by Mr. Kowald. The language of the inhabitants of Mount Musgrave and of Mount Knutsford is also nearly related to the coast dialects, and through them to the Polynesian family.

Polynesian root names certainly are met with as far west as the Aird River, but they are strangely few in some dialects compared with others, a difference not accounted for by proximity to the Pacific. It is not safe to speak at present of any Polynesian connection west of the Fly River. The most westerly dialect available for comparison is a vocabulary of over 500 words of the Saliraka dialect, the language of the scattered Tugeri people who, living between the 140th and 141st degree of east longitude, have been in the habit of invading the Possession. This vocabulary, prepared by Mr. Montague, and kindly supplied to this Government by the courtesy of Resident Bensbach, of Ternate, shows no connection with any known dialect of British New Guinea, nor consequently with the Polynesian languages, unless it perchance be in one or two words, which may or may not be pure coincidences. These certainly are by no means uncommon; at least one or two

striking examples could be produced of words having similar sounds and similar significance in Greece and in New Guinea.

It seems to be well established that in the Central and Western Districts the dialects are more permanent in character than they are in many of the eastern communities. The special want of fixity in the latter is largely or specially owing to the fact that the name of a deceased person is not used by the circle of his acquaintances. Names of persons are very frequently names of things, and the thing, on the decease of a person bearing its name, has to receive a new appellation; hence it will have one name in one village, and a totally different name in the next. This double or treble nomenclature was a great trouble in the Island of Murua (Woodlark), so much so that it was doubted at first whether there were not two languages blended together. It is more likely that the duplication is owing to the working of this taboo on the name of the deceased. It will probably die out, as the natives readily use the name of a deceased person when speaking to a European.

ESTABLISHMENTS.

49. The changes that took place in the establishments during the year were :—

Mr. Hatton Richards, Treasurer and Collector of Customs, was promoted to an office in the Gold Coast Colony. His place here was filled by the promotion of Mr. D. Ballantine. The latter was succeeded as sub-collector at Samarai by Mr. R. J. Kennedy.

Mr. Wriford retired from his post as Commandant of the Constabulary, and was succeeded by Mr. W. Palmer.

The appointments of Government Surveyor and Assistant Surveyor were abolished. Arrangements have been made by which surveys can be performed by employing a duly qualified unofficial surveyor.

Captain Jones succeeded Captain Young in command of the ss. "Merrie England."

50. No case of fatal illness occurred among the officers, but there were instances of rather serious sickness, and they had many slight attacks of fever.

There were no deaths in the constabulary except that of Constable Umi, who was murdered by a Pannieti native, a prisoner at the time.

PUBLIC PROPERTY AND PUBLIC WORKS.

51. No change was made during the year in the vessels belonging to the Government.

The Western Division was still without any better means of locomotion than a whaleboat. The other three Divisions had suitable vessels.

52. A few hundred acres of land were purchased by the Government from native owners for intending settlers, but land was bought only as required.

The principal work undertaken in the Western Division was a beginning to remove the station from Mabudauan to Daru Island.

In the Mekeo district, cultivation was extended and new buildings erected.

In the Central Division the prisoners weeded the cocoanut plantations, made roads, and levelled building sites. Some progress was made in building a stone wharf at Port Moresby.

The prisoners were also employed several months in the Eastern Division.

A large building, sixty feet by thirty, suitable as a Government store and bonded warehouse, was built at Ela, Port Moresby, of galvanised iron. It is in a suitable position, and should be sufficient for many years.

In the Rigo district the work of clearing land and planting it in cocoanuts was continued. The top of the hill on which the buildings are situated was partly levelled. Some new out-houses were also built.

At Samarai the principal work was the filling up of the swamp. Probably about two-fifths of it was completed during the year. It was found that this work told very severely on the prisoners. It was considered necessary to remove them back to Port Moresby, on grounds of health, when they had been at Samarai nearly six months. Their hands gave way, they suffered from fever, they lost condition, and were covered by boils and small sores.

A small stone jetty was built at Samarai. At considerable expense, a building was put up to serve as a bonded warehouse and Customs office. There was also some extension of planting.

At Nivani new buildings were erected, and planting begun.

TRADE.

Detailed tables of imports and exports, navigation, and postal matters, were duly furnished.

Imports.

53. The total of imports entered at Port Moresby and Samarai, respectively, has been :—

Year.	Samarai.	Port Moresby.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1888-89	6,016 0 0	5,019 0 0	11,108 0 0
1889-90	6,798 0 0	9,305 0 0	16,104 0 0
1890-91	7,455 0 0	8,075 0 0	15,530 0 0
1891-92	10,379 0 0	13,377 0 0	23,755 0 0
1892-93	13,173 0 0	12,088 0 0	25,261 0 0

The principal items were:—

	1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.
	£	£	£	£	£
Food stuffs - -	5,400	7,124	4,463	6,037	6,252
Drapery - -	1,185	1,392	1,457	2,133	2,918
Tobacco and cigars -	996	1,290	2,354	3,257	2,407
Hardware - -	927	1,123	1,535	2,677	2,823
Beverages - -	805	1,143	688	890	1,625
Clothes - -	550	190	255	705	496
Building materials -	246	1,086	1,224	1,965	1,474
Other articles -	999	2,756	3,554	6,091	7,261
Total -	11,108	16,104	15,530	23,755	25,261

It will be noticed that there has been a continuously increasing demand for drapery. Under "Beverages" are included articles like tea and coffee, which are used solely for making beverages. Of tea more than a ton and a half was imported.

As compared with the previous year, there is a distinct falling off in tobacco. Many natives have begun to demand to be paid in money and refuse payment in tobacco. Much of what used to be expended on tobacco on their account is now laid out by them on tinned meat and other articles.

Exports.

The total value of exports, as entered in the Custom House, has been:—

Year.	Samarai.	Port Moresby.	Total.
	£	£	£
1888-89 - -	5,071	871	5,943
1889-90 - -	5,458	997	6,455
1890-91 - -	7,678	755	8,134
1891-92 - -	8,099	3,190	11,289
1892-93 - -	6,290	8,675	14,966

The marked increase in the exports from Port Moresby is to be attributed to sandalwood, of which about 900 tons, valued at 7,183*l.*, was exported. Had the price of this wood not fallen considerably shortly after the beginning of the year, the value of this export would have been much greater than it is.

In the above figures for 1892–93 there is included an export of 650 ounces of gold, valued at 2,050*l.* Mr. Burkitt, Sub-Collector of Customs at Cooktown, kindly furnishes particulars of the gold imported into Cooktown from British New Guinea during the year—viz., 582 ounces, valued at 2,236*l.*

That the production of gold is steadily falling off appears from the following comparison :—

Gold entered at the Custom House, Cooktown, from the Possession, has been—

——	1888–89.	1889–90.	1890–91.	1891–92.	1892–93.
Ounces -	3,850	3,470	2,426	1,235	582
Value -	£14,387	£12,440	£8,371	£4,322	£2,236

The Béche-de-mer fishery shows a marked decrease, but this is partly owing to the fact that certain of the small traders, who in previous years had followed the fishery as an industry, during the last year devoted their energies almost entirely to getting sandalwood. The produce of the fishery for the last five years has been :—

Export of Béche-de-Mer.

——	1888–89.	1889–90.	1890–91.	1891–92.	1892–93.
Tons - -	38½	70¼	64¼	49	21¾
Value -	£2,178	£4,682	£5,030	£3,401	£1,573

The pearl-shell industry for the year shows a decided improvement. For 1890–91 the exports for this article were valued at 85*l.*; for 1891–92, at 542*l.*; and for 1892–93, at 1,623*l.* Nearly all the pearl-shell exported during the past year came from the south-eastern waters of the Possession.

An article included in last year's exports, and which did not figure as an export in former years, is pearls. These, to the value of 450*l.*, were exported last year. Fair quantities of pearls have lately been got from the Kiriwina Group, but as a rule these are not very valuable pearls.

Copra shows a falling off as compared with the two previous years. Some of the copra districts, however, were also sandalwood districts, and the natives of these districts probably found it more profitable to get this wood than to make copra. Several settlers have during the year planted cocoanuts extensively, and others purpose doing so. The natives also are extending their

groves of this palm, and in the future are likely to continue doing so.

The copra exported for the last five years has been—

1888–89	- -	76 tons, valued at	550*l.*
1889–90	- -	43 „ „	250*l.*
1890–91	- -	198 „ „	1,433*l.*
1891–92	- -	340 „ „	2,084*l.*
1892–93	- -	194 „ „	1,159*l.*

A small quantity of india-rubber figures in the list of exports for last year. It is, however, too soon to be able to judge whether this article will in the future become a substantial export or not.

Shipping.

54. No foreign merchant shipping visited the Possession during the year. The total number of foreign-going merchant vessels that entered during the twelve months was forty-two, of 3,351 tons; clearances were thirty-four, of 3,300 tons.

Since the latter part of 1892, the mail sailing ship has made regular bimensal trips from a northern port of Queensland along the southern coast of the Possession and back to a Queensland northern port. In addition to this vessel, a ship has plied between Thursday Island and Port Moresby, and another has made periodical quarterly trips from Cooktown to Samarai, and from thence among the islands of the Louisiade Archipelago and other neighbouring groups.

Postal.

55. Postal business up to the end of June, 1893, has been as follows:—

Article.	1888–89.	1889–90.	1890–91.	1891–92.	1892–93.
Letters received -	2,366	3,166	2,664	4,393	4,679
Letters despatched -	2,587	2,586	2,191	3,917	4,011
Packets received -	93	111	142	43	230
Packets despatched -	98	84	88	78	427
Newspapers received -	4,071	6,844	6,042	8,505	6,749
Newspapers despatched	574	590	468	756	276

FINANCE.

The statement of revenue and expenditure for the financial year ended 30th June 1893, together with certificate of audit by Mr. Deshon, have been submitted in the usual way.

Revenue.

56. The amount of revenue paid into the Queensland Treasury by the Possession during the year was 4,604*l.* 16*s.* 6*d.* It is compared below with that of the four preceding years:—

Items.	1888–89.	1889–90.	1890–91.	1891–92.	1892–93.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Customs Dues	2,419 10 2	2,893 10 4	2,525 13 2	4,428 14 11	3,757 16 4
Gold Field Receipts	187 17 0	20 15 0	23 0 0	24 0 0	23 17 0
Fees—Shipping, Court Survey, &c.	1 18 0	4 10 0	4 3 0	10 14 0	157 8 5
Fines	25 13 6	41 10 0	46 5 0	34 0 0	24 10 0
Licenses	2 0 0	11 0 0	21 0 0	136 15 0	106 0 0
Miscellaneous	42 13 2	44 8 0	53 18 2	149 12 6	535 4 9
Total £	2,679 11 10	3,015 13 4	2,673 19 4	4,783 16 5	4,604 16 6

The increase under "Fees" is principally due to survey fees.

Expenditure.

57. The full sum of 15,000*l.* available for the current Administrative Services for the year was expended. The actual expenditure is classified below and compared with that of previous years:—

Head of Expenditure.	1888–89.	1889–90.	1890–91.	1891–92.	1892–93.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Civil List Salaries	2,633 19 7	3,306 0 0	3,290 12 8	3,300 0 0	3,300 0 0
Other Salaries	1,796 0 6	2,381 18 6	3,476 10 5	3,559 2 0	3,707 3 10
Vessels and Boats	2,747 11 4	2,564 3 0	2,938 16 3	2,993 6 5	1,600 8 3
Allowances—house and travelling—for all officers.	1,296 13 11	2,548 3 2	1,500 0 0	1,356 0 5	1,748 15 4
Buildings and Public Works.	185 1 10	1,144 19 3	979 0 8	780 10 1	872 4 6
Agriculture	2 10 0	137 11 9	355 9 2	335 12 3	146 19 6
Mail Service	445 0 0	—	—	—	450 0 0
Miscellaneous	1,662 14 1	2,898 9 8	2,459 10 10	2,675 8 10	3,174 8 7
Total £	10,769 11 3	14,975 5 4	15,000 0 0	15,000 0 0	15,000 0 0

The full amount voted was expended on Civil List Salaries. On other salaries there was an excess in expenditure over the amount appropriated of 57*l.* 3*s.* 10*d.*

Exploration Fund.

58. The sum to the credit of this account at the beginning of the financial year was 509*l.* 5*s.* Of this sum, 275*l.* 19*s.* 4*d.* was expended, leaving a balance of 233*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.* The expenditure charged to this account was mainly in connection with the further examination of the shores of the Gulf of Papua, and of the numerous rivers that empty themselves into the Gulf.

S.S. "Merrie England."

59. The financial year in connection with the "Merrie England" accounts terminates on the 31st March in each year; the gross total expenditure on this service for the financial year ended 31st March, 1893, was 7,662*l.* 18*s.* 10*d.*; but 413*l.* 9*s.* 8*d.* was covered by refunds and earnings, leaving a net expenditure of 7,249*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.* The Imperial Government gave 5,000*l.*, and the contributing colonies 2,000*l.* for the maintenance of the steamer.* Of the 249*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.* not covered by the contribution of 7,000*l.*, the sum of 124*l.* 8*s.* 8*d.* was met by an unexpended balance of that amount brought over from the previous year, leaving a deficit of 125*l* 0*s.* 6*d.* The increase in expenditure was mainly due to the cost of repairs and other expenses, arising from the grounding of the steamer on a coral reef in the discoloured water of the western coast.

During the year the "Merrie England" used 671 tons of coal, and ran 14,840 miles.

Prisons.

60. There were prisons in the Western Division, in Mekeo, at Port Moresby, in Rigo, and at Samarai. None was built at Nivani, but the Resident Magistrate for that Division had it in contemplation to commence to erect one.

Twenty-nine prisoners were received into the gaol at Port Moresby during the year, and ten were discharged on the expiration of their sentences. There were four long-sentenced prisoners at the Western station, six at Mekeo, and four at the Rigo station. The number of prisoners in Port Moresby gaol varied from 38 to 20.

No deaths occurred, but there were many cases of minor illnesses.

The large amount of work they performed was very satisfactory † There was no escape from the Port Moresby gaol, and no attempted escape.

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* The Imperial contribution has been reduced to 4,000*l.* a year from 1st April, 1893, and that of the contributing colonies increased to 3,000*l.* a year from same date.

† Not printed.

Mr. Gleeson, as usual, maintained excellent discipline, based on kind but firm treatment.

MISSION WORK.

61. With the exception of only a few fast-diminishing gaps, the whole of the coast from the Wasikussa to Kappi Kappi (Cape Vogel) is more or less under missionary influence. About half of the D'Entrecasteaux Group, half the Louisiades, and practically all the intervening islands were brought under the influence of the Wesleyan Church.

The last-named mission has three thoroughly substantial establishments, at Dobu, Tubetube, and at Pannieti. Their teaching, stamped with the energy and earnestness of the Rev. W. Bromilow, the senior minister, has had very remarkable success. The Anglican mission has languished for want of men and teachers. An excellent head-quarter station has been prepared, but Mr. King has not been able to extend teaching far beyond his own reach.

A model native-built station has been completed at the London Missionary Society station at Kwato, and their settlements in connection with that station have been further extended along the coast.

The influence of the London Missionary Society's station at Kerepunu has been quietly and unostentatiously growing in depth and circumference.

Clearly a great change for the better is observable in the Port Moresby natives lately. This is to some extent due to the excellent village policeman, but it certainly also arises in some measure from the fact that they begin to have their views widened by the teaching of the mission, and to understand better their duties and position.

By the death of Bishop Verjus the Sacred Heart mission and the country sustained a lamentable loss. He was young, courageous, loyal, and enthusiastic. With rare liberality and breadth of mind, he fostered friendly relations with the missionaries of other denominations settled here. He worked hand in hand with the officers of the Government with whom he came into contact. Endowed with great energy, he was able to become personally acquainted with the different tribes in his district, to know their ways and to understand their wants. His plans for their good cannot but meet with some delay. It is much to be desired that his views and methods should be adhered to.

The labours of the London Missionary Society in the Gulf of Papua, and in the Fly River, were continued by the Rev. J. Chalmers, who has fixed on the Island of Dauan as the principal station in the west.

There is probably not a coast village between the Mai Kussa and Port Moresby at which this missionary is not known. The personal danger connected with opening missions on that coast he

has practically exhausted, and the ground is gradually becoming filled up by native teachers.

METEOROLOGY.

62. A Report on meteorology* was prepared by Mr. Musgrave, Government Secretary.

For the outlying stations the returns supplied were only fragmentary.

According to these tables, the rainfall at Port Moresby during the year was a fraction under thirty inches, while the incomplete and interrupted returns from the Western Division record about seventy-three inches.

The greatest temperature noted was 98° on 11th June, 1892, at Port Moresby. At the same station the lowest reading of the thermometer was 72°. At Mabudauan a minimum reading of 69° seems common, while 61° or 62° appears to not be rare in the Mekeo district.

GENERAL.

63. The Government of Queensland continued to the Possession the same valuable assistance as heretofore. The Surveyor-General, Mr. A. McDowall, by the efficient and practical aid given by himself personally, and through his department, rendered it possible to prepare sketch maps which otherwise would have remained undone.

Captain Almond, Portmaster, and Mr. Stuart, supervised the re-fitting of the steamer; and the former performed many other skilled services for the Possession.

The usual annual visit was made by me to Brisbane for the despatch of business there. Mr. Winter, with care and efficiency, acted during that interval as Deputy Administrator.

The health of officers during the year was fairly satisfactory. The remarks that precede will show that they performed not a little meritorious service during the period under review.

I have, &c.

WM. MACGREGOR,
Administrator,

His Excellency
Sir Henry Wylie Norman, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., C.I.E., &c.,
Governor of Queensland.

* Not printed.

No. 2.

Sir H. W. NORMAN to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA. 1892–3.

Government House, Brisbane,

MY LORD MARQUESS, July 31, 1894.

IN continuation of my Despatch, dated 18th instant,* in which I forwarded the Annual Report of the British New Guinea Administration for the year ending 30th June 1893, I have now the honour to report, that the Chief Secretary of Queensland informs me that he has no observations to make on the Report, but that he has read it with great interest.

2. The Report itself contains much information that will be of interest to your Lordship and shows that much valuable and arduous work has been carried on to the benefit of the people of the Possession.

3. The Revenue, it will be seen, amounted to 4,604*l.*, which is rather less than the revenue of the preceding year. The 15,000*l.* contributed by the Colonies of New South Wales, Victoria, and Queensland, was fully expended, as well as the 7,000*l.* given by the Imperial Treasury, and the three Colonies for the maintenance of the steamer "Merrie England."

4. The Imports were of the value of 25,261*l.*, being an increase of 1,506*l.* over those of the previous year, and the value of the Exports was 14,966*l.*, being an increase of 3,677*l.* over the value of the exports of the preceding year. These increases show progress in the trade of the Possession, but the exports include 650 ounces of gold valued at 2,050*l.* The gold export is, as stated by Sir William MacGregor, steadily decreasing, there having been a falling off in each year, from 1888–89, when 14,387*l.* worth of gold was exported, until the present year, when it was less than one-sixth of the value exported five years ago. Considerable improvement is apparent in the pearl-shelling industry, and there is a marked increase in the export of sandal wood, the value of which during the year was nearly equal to the value of all other exports.

5. There can be no doubt that the condition of the people of British New Guinea, so far as our influence extends, is improving in all respects, while the efforts of the four Missionary bodies who labour in the Possession are bearing good fruit.

I have, &c.

H. W. NORMAN.

No. 3.

Sir H. W. NORMAN to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA 1893–4.

Government House, Brisbane,

MY LORD MARQUESS, November 7, 1894.

I DO myself the honour to enclose in separate cover six printed copies of the Annual Report of the British New Guinea

* No. 1.

Administration for the year ended on the 30th June, 1894. I also enclose, for the information of your Lordship, copy of a letter from the Chief Secretary of Queensland, dated the 1st instant, in reply to the memorandum in which I forwarded Sir William MacGregor's report for his information and remarks.

2. The Report is full of interest, and I am sure will be read by your Lordship with satisfaction.

3. The various reports of visits of inspection by the Administrator which are attached as appendices to the Report, have been already separately sent to your Lordship and all reports or references on which action has been required have been dealt with here when they were received. The appendices contain a large amount of valuable information on many subjects connected with the Possession.

4. In my despatch of yesterday's date*, I have enclosed particulars of the revenue and expenditure of British New Guinea for last year and from Appendix LL.* of the Report now sent it will be seen that the Imports of the year are valued at 26,500*l.* and the Exports at 14,951*l.*, as compared with 25,261*l.*, and 14,966*l.* for Imports and Exports last year. The exports of most importance are Béche-de-mer, copra, gold, pearl, shell and sandal-wood, and there has been some increase in the export of all these articles except sandal wood, in which the quantity exported has fallen from 899 tons, of the value of 7,183*l.*, to 321 tons, of the value of 1,896*l.*

5. Civilisation and Christianity seem to be making fair progress in the Possession by means of the various agencies at work, but no doubt there is much to be done in portions of the Territory which as yet have not come thoroughly under the influence of the Government Officers or the Missionary bodies.

I have, &c.

H. W. NORMAN.

Chief Secretary's Office, Brisbane,

SIR, November 1, 1894.

I HAVE the honour to return herewith Sir William MacGregor's Annual Report for the year from the 1st July 1893 to the 30th June 1894, which your Excellency was good enough to send me on the 26th ultimo, for my perusal.

The Report, which is very full and complete, and of great interest, gives evidence that the work done by the Administrator during the year of which it treats is likely to have effects of lasting value.

I have, &c.

HUGH M. NELSON.

His Excellency
Sir Henry W. Norman, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., C.I.E.,
Governor.

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* Not printed.

Annual Report on British New Guinea from 1st July 1893 to 30th June 1894.

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British New Guinea. 1893–4.

Sir Wm. MacGregor to Sir H. W. Norman.

Sir, Brisbane, August 23, 1894.

I have the honour to present a Report of my proceedings in the government of British New Guinea for the year ending with June 1894, as directed by Section XXXVI. of the Royal Instructions.

Legislation.

Ordinances.

1. Ordinance No. I. of 1893.—This measure was passed to appropriate for the services of the year the following sums:—For ordinary administrative purposes, £15,000; to defray the expense of maintenance of the s.s. "Merrie England," £7,000.

2. Ordinance No. II. of 1893.—The object of this law is to facilitate and encourage job contracts and similar dealings between Europeans and natives. It does not affect engagements entered into under "*The Native Labour Ordinance of* 1892," or under "*The Pearlshell and Bêche-de-mer Fishery Ordinance of* 1891."

Any contract that would necessarily involve a breach of any native regulation is declared to be unlawful.

Any contract for the sale or purchase of a boat must, to be valid, be put in writing, and be approved by an inspector appointed by the Administrator under this Ordinance.

The same arrangement applies to job contracts by natives for the performance of a piece of work at a distance of more than twenty-five miles from the home of the native; or when the work would extend over a period of twelve months or when the remuneration to be paid for it exceeds five pounds.

An inspector may use his own discretion as to approving a contract or otherwise. It had already been found that in several instances old and unseaworthy boats had been sold to natives for indigenous products. It appeared to be very desirable to not cause payments in boats to be discontinued, but rather to encourage such transactions by regulating them, and explaining fully to natives their nature and terms, and by securing for them fair dealing.

It is also hoped that the provisions of this Ordinance may encourage such contract work by natives as the clearing of land, the making of roads, weeding and planting cocoanuts, &c. But it is not meant to include such transactions as an engagement by a native to supply a stated amount of native products at a fixed price within a given time, which would interfere with ordinary trading.

3. Ordinance No. III. of 1893.—It was found by experience that some modification and extension of the provisions of "*The Native Labour Ordinance of* 1892" had become necessary. That law conferred on the proper officer the discretionary power of

allowing a native to be taken by any Christian Mission established in the Possession to any Queensland island north of the tenth degree of south latitude. The Sacred Heart Mission wished to take a few boys from the Mekeo district to Thursday Island (which is south of the tenth degree) to learn English in their school there. It was quite clear that this would be a great gain to the natives, and advantageous to the district, while also calculated to further the work of the Mission. This Ordinance accordingly enables permits to be issued for removing natives to Thursday Island for this purpose.

A few natives had found out that there was no enactment for punishing them should they fail to take up service after they had entered into a written agreement under the Native Labour Ordinance, or if they deserted from such service. Provision was accordingly made for inflicting a penalty of imprisonment in such cases.

4. Ordinance No. I. of 1894 was passed to amend "*The Intestacy Act of* 1877." (Queensland adopted). Owing to the large extent of the Possession and the infrequency of communication between the Central Court and Resident Magistrates and Government Agents, it was found that much loss often occurred in estates left vacant or intestate before an order could be obtained from the Central Court. In addition to the actual loss and deterioration to an estate left without proper supervision, there had also to be considered the great temptation presented in such cases to natives for pilfering and misappropriation. This law was accordingly prepared to enable the Curator to act at once in cases in which a person dies leaving goods or land in the Possession without having an executor that can or will act on his behalf.

The Curator may, under this Ordinance, either himself or by an agent, take any steps necessary to preserve the property or to utilise it for the benefit of the estate. He may sell goods or produce, and pay funeral and other necessary expenses.

The Curator must, however, as soon as possible, apply to the Central Court in each case for an order enabling him to deal with land or goods under the Intestacy Act, after which the ordinary course is pursued.

5. Ordinance No. II. of 1894 was passed to provide for the protection of wild birds. Our knowledge of the birds of the Possession is as yet very far from being complete, but it is sufficiently great to make it manifest that restrictive measures are necessary in order to preserve certain kinds from speedy extinction.

It would not be possible to prepare an inclusive law that could at once embrace all the different species that may require now or hereafter to be put under protection. The Ordinance therefore provides that protection may be extended from time to time, as may be found necessary, to any species that extended knowledge and greater experience show to be in need of it.

By a Proclamation issued under this Ordinance the destruction or capture of all wild birds except birds of prey is prohibited on the watershed of the harbour of Port Moresby, and on the islands of Samari and Daru. This was shown to be very necessary by the fact that the feathered fauna in the neighbourhood of Port Moresby has twice within the last six years been ruthlessly and inconsiderately slaughtered, so that for months hardly a singing bird was heard in the neighbourhood.

By a similar Proclamation, the peculiar bird of paradise of the Raggiana class, found on the island of Fergusson, in the D'Entrecasteaux group, can no longer be shot or captured. So far as is at present known, this variety occurs only on that island, and is by no means common even there.

The large and beautiful bird belonging to the division of the birds of paradise, and called by the native name of "Bulibuli," has also been put under protection. This bird is not known to exist outside of the D'Entrecasteaux and Kiriwina groups of islands. In these it is met with at present in considerable numbers. Its habits render it an easy prey to the hunter. As a morning songster it is unique, and there are but few more handsome birds in any country.

Native Regulations.

Four Regulations were passed by the Native Regulation Board during the year.

6. Regulation No. I. of 1893 was passed to enable the estates of deceased natives to be dealt with in a simpler and more suitable manner than was possible under the general laws applicable to the estates of Europeans under similar circumstances. The regulation was passed to meet a want that was found to exist in actual practice. This regulation provides that a native cannot dispose by will of any interest possessed by him in any land he holds simply because he is a native; it also exempts the intestate estates of natives from the operation of the ordinary law. It directs that in the absence of a will, the property of a deceased native shall descend according to native custom.

Distributors are appointed under the Regulation by the Administrator, with power to deal with effects in such estates, but the distributors have no power to deal with real estate; they can however sell or divide effects and pay debts. Conflicting claims in reference to effects are to be treated as civil claims under Regulation IX. of 1890. Distributors report half-yearly to the Government secretary.

7. Regulation No. II. of 1893 forbids the practice of sorcery. The sorcerer is a weed of universal distribution in the Possession. Sorcery is used as a means of extorting blackmail or for obtaining revenge. The extent to which it is believed in is proved by the fact that it often frightens people into serious sickness, and is even said to occasionally cause death by terror. Several tribes have

denounced the practice, and have delivered the "puripuri" (the garbage which constitutes the material agent in producing supernatural effects at the will of the sorcerer) to officers of the Government. The witch and sorcerer have in some districts caused much mischief, and have at times greatly disturbed and retarded the work of teachers. The majority of the natives approve warmly of the suppression of sorcery, and it is already manifest that this Regulation will be productive of considerable good.

8. Regulation No. I. of 1894 is an effort towards the making and clearing of roads by natives. Owing to the fertility of much of the soil, and the moisture and heat of the climate, the growth of the different kinds of grass and shrubs is very luxuriant, and the natives make no attempt to clear the paths except by burning the grass when it is ripe and dry. Under the Regulation, a magistrate for native matters can direct a village as to what roads it shall make or clear on its own lands. Any native that refuses or fails to perform his fair share of this work may be imprisoned for any period not exceeding seven days. It was brought into force with good results in the Rigo and Mekeo districts.

9. Regulation No. II. of 1894 was passed in the hope that it might assist in extending the planting of cocoanuts by natives. This cultivation is simple and already well-known to them. The coaconut is indigenous, and thrives remarkably well. Several tribes have been induced to plant many nuts, but the Magistrates for Native Matters unanimously desired a law that would enable heavy pressure to be brought to bear on individuals that would not otherwise move in this direction.

The Magistrate for Native Matters fixes the minimum number of cocoanuts that are to be planted each year by the occupants of each village, taking into account all their particular circumstances. This Regulation, like all others, can only be applied in certain places; but it has already been of considerable use, and will doubtless, if judiciously worked, greatly extend the copra industry.

10. Regulations having the force of law were passed under the provisions of "*The Gold Fields Act*, 1874" (Queensland adopted). They apply only to the island of Tagula (Sudest). Most of the creeks on that island have already been worked and the surface washed for gold. At many spots, however, there are large pools, formed by bars of slate crossing the course of the creek and damming back the water. To get to the bed of the creek in such places it is necessary to cut through these schist dykes, often a work of considerable labour and expense, so that it could not be undertaken for the privilege of working the ordinary mining claim. The diggers of the island asked that, under such circumstances, the claim should be extended by the warden to the total extent of 800 feet. This Regulation is not applicable to Misima, owing to the different kind of sluicing required there.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

11. The establishment for the administration of Justice remains unchanged.

I am indebted to His Honour F. P. Winter, C.M.G., Chief Judicial Officer, for the following tabulated list of cases dealt with by the Courts during the year :—

MATTERS DEALT WITH JUDICIALLY FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30th JUNE, 1894.

CENTRAL COURTS.

Criminal Jurisdiction—Appeals.

Court appealed from.	Conviction appealed against.	Result of Appeal.
Court of Petty Sessions, Eastern District	Defamation - -	Conviction quashed.
" " "	Sedition - -	" "
" " "	" - -	" "
" " "	" - -	" "
" " "	" - -	" "
" " "	" - -	" "
" " "	" - -	" "

Criminal Business (Ordinary).

Number of persons committed for Trial.	District from which committed.	Persons committed—how disposed of.
35	Central District - -	25 tried 1 committal quashed 1 discharged 8 awaiting trial
23	Eastern District -	18 tried 2 committal quashed 2 discharged 1 awaiting trial
19	Western District - -	7 tried 1 committal quashed 11 awaiting trial
Total - - 77		

The Court held twenty-six Criminal Sessions at the places and Times, and with the Results, under mentioned :—

No. of Persons tried.	Offence charged.	Result of Trial.	Sentence.
	AROMA—15th July 1893.		
11	(1) murder, (2) wounding, (3) assault.	4 guilty, 7 not guilty -	2 six months', 2 four months' imprisonment with hard labour.

No. of Persons tried.	Offence Charged.	Result of Trial.	Sentence.
		SAMARAI—18th July 1893.	
2	1 murder, 1 breaking out of gaol.	1 guilty manslaughter, 1 guilty breaking out of gaol.	1 three months', 1 two weeks', imprisonment with hard labour.
		PANAIETTI—20th July 1893.	
1	1 murder - - -	1 guilty - - -	1 death.
		SUDEST ISLAND—22nd July 1893.	
1	1 shooting with intent to murder.	1 not guilty.	
		SAMARAI—9th August 1893.	
3	3 murder, 2 receiving stolen goods.	1 guilty of murder, 2 not guilty, 2 discharged.	1 death.
		KIRIWINA—1st November 1893.	
	1 assault, 1 wounding -	2 not guilty.	
		SAMARAI—4th November 1893.	
6	4 murder, 2 wounding -	4 guilty murder, 2 guilty wounding.	4 death; 1 six months 1 three months' imprisonment with hard labour.
		PORT MORESBY—8th November 1893.	
2	2 (1) murder, (2) assault	1 guilty of manslaughter, 1 guilty of assault.	2 four months' imprisonment with hard labour.
		PORT MORESBY—29th November 1893.	
1	1 murder - - -	1 guilty murder - -	1 death.
		PORT MORESBY—1st December 1893.	
2	2 murder - - -	2 guilty murder - -	2 death.
		DARU—1st and 2nd January 1894.	
2	1 wounding, 1 murder -	1 guilty murder, 1 guilty wounding.	1 death, 1 one years' imprisonment with hard labour.
		SAGUANA (FLY RIVER)—8th January 1894.	
5	1 murder, 1 abusing girl between ages ten and twelve, 2 abusing girl under ten, 1 wounding.	1 guilty of manslaughter, 1 guilty indecent assault, 2 guilty of abusing girl under ten, 1 not guilty.	1 twelve months', 2 six months' imprisonment with hard labour, 1 five years' penal servitude.
		KARAMA (GULF)—10th January 1894.	
	1 (1) murder, (7) wounding.	1 guilty of wounding -	1 six months' imprisonment with hard labour.
		TOARIPI—11th January 1894.	
2	2 murder - - -	2 guilty murder - -	2 death.
		MEKEO—15th January 1894.	
1	1 murder - - -	1 guilty, manslaughter -	1 imprisonment until rising of the Court.
		MEKEO—22nd January 1894.	
1	1 murder - - -	1 guilty murder - -	1 death.
		PORT MORESBY—5th February 1894.	
5	5 murder - - -	5 not guilty - - -	
		BEGASSI (FERGUSSON ISLAND)—9th March 1894.	
1	1 murder - - -	1 not guilty.	
		DOBU—10th March 1894.	
4	1 murder, 2 sedition, 1 assault.	1 not guilty, 3 discharged.	

No. of Persons tried.	Offence charged.	Result of Trial.	Sentence.
		Samarai—12th March 1894.	
1	1 murder	1 guilty manslaughter	1 twelve months' imprisonment with hard labour.
		Samarai—18th April 1894.	
1	1 (1) murder, (7) assault	1 guilty of assault	1 twelve months' imprisonment with hard labour.
		Samarai—16th May 1894.	
1	1 (1) murder, (7) assault	1 guilty of assault	1 six months' imprisonment with hard labour.
		Henega (East Cape)—17th May 1894.	
1	1 (1) murder, (7) assault	1 not guilty.	
		Rossel Island—6th June 1894.	
2	2 murder	2 not guilty.	
		Dobu—14th June 1894.	
1	1 desecration of sepulture	1 guilty	1 six months' imprisonment with hard labour.
		Port Moresby—27th June 1894.	
1	1 wounding	1 guilty wounding	1 six months' imprisonment with hard labour.
Total - 63			

Civil Business.

Number of Proceedings.	Nature of Proceedings, &c.
3	Applications for order to administer by Curator of Intestate Estates.
1	Application for directions by Curator of Intestate Estates.
Total 4	

Courts of Petty Sessions.

Indictable Offences Jurisdiction.

District of Court.	Number of persons Charged.	Nature of Charge.	Result of Inquiry.
Central District -	58	50 murder 1 soliciting to commit murder. 4 wounding 1 arson 1 infanticide 1 breaking prison	35 committed. 4 discharged. 19 on remand.
Eastern District -	24	15 murder 2 assault 1 wounding 2 larceny 4 sedition	14 committed. 4 discharged. 6 on remand.
Western District -	20	12 murder 3 rape 3 wounding 1 attempt to rape 1 abusing child	19 committed. 1 discharged.
	Total 102		

Summary Offences Jurisdiction.

District of Court.	Number of Persons Charged.	Nature of Charge.	Result of Trial.
Central District	41	6 assault	3 convicted, 3 dismissed.
		4 desertion as a constable	4 convicted.
		1 breach of Constabulary Ordinance.	1 convicted.
		9 larceny	9 convicted.
		3 harbouring escaped prisoner.	3 dismissed.
		1 escaping from gaol	1 convicted.
		3 injuries to property	3 convicted.
		13 desertion from service	13 convicted.
		1 breach of Liquor Ordinance.	1 convicted.
Eastern District	61	17 larceny	16 convicted, 1 dismissed.
		18 assault	10 convicted, 8 dismissed.
		6 injuries to property	1 convicted, 5 dismissed.
		2 aiding prisoner to escape	2 convicted.
		1 abusive language	1 dismissed.
		1 breach of Pearl Shell Ordinance.	1 convicted.
		2 defamation	1 convicted, 1 dismissed.
		2 resisting police	2 convicted.
		6 sedition	6 convicted.
		1 obscene language	1 convicted.
		3 breach of the peace	3 convicted.
		1 extortion	1 convicted.
		1 breach of Liquor Ordinance.	1 dismissed.
Western District	3	3 assault	3 convicted.
	Total 105		

Civil Jurisdiction.

District of Court.	Number of Actions Tried.	Nature of Action.	Result of Action.
Central District	—	Nil	
Eastern District	2	Breach of contract	Verdict for defendant.
		Debt	Verdict for defendant.
Western District	1	Debt	Verdict for plaintiff.
	3		

NATIVE MAGISTRATES' COURTS.

Criminal Jurisdiction—(Forbidden Acts.)

District of Court.	Number of Persons Charged.	Nature of Charge.	Result of Trial.
No. 2 (Central)	49	26 larceny	19 convicted, 7 dismissed.
		15 assault	14 convicted, 1 dismissed.
		4 burying in village	3 convicted, 1 dismissed.
		1 obstructing constables	1 convicted.
		1 destroying cocoanut trees	1 convicted.
		1 spreading lying reports	1 convicted
		1 threatening language	1 dismissed.
No. 3 (Eastern)	36	7 adultery	7 convicted.
		18 larceny	18 convicted.
		1 abduction	1 dismissed,
		4 sorcery	2 convicted, 2 dismissed.
		2 escaping from custody	2 convicted.
		4 assault	4 convicted.
No. 1 (Western)	9	1 assault	1 convicted.
		5 adultery	1 convicted, 4 dismissed.
	94	3 theft	1 convicted, 2 dismissed.

Civil Jurisdiction (Civil Claims).

District of Court.	Number of Actions Tried.	Nature of Claim.	Result of Trial.
No. 2 (Central)	—	Injuring sago trees	Verdict for plaintiff. Damages assessed in native ornaments.
No. 3 (Eastern)	—	Nil.	
No. 1 (Western)	—	Ownership of dugong spear	Verdict for plaintiff.

TOTAL NUMBER OF CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS.

In Central Court (including 7 appeals)	84
In Courts of Petty Sessions (exclusive of the 84 cases that went up to Central Court)	130
In Native Magistrates' Courts	94
In all Courts	308

TOTAL NUMBER OF CIVIL PROCEEDINGS.

In Central Court	4
In Courts of Petty Sessions	3
In Native Magistrates' Courts	2
In all Courts	9

Of the total 308 cases that came before the courts in their criminal jurisdiction, thirteen resulted in a sentence of capital punishment. The sentence was commuted to long terms of penal servitude in all cases save one—the first one that presented itself during the year.

A native of the Island of Panaietti was undergoing a short term of imprisonment for theft. He got hold of a tomahawk that had been left within his reach, and with it wounded the coxswain of the cutter "Maino," and by a blow on the head killed on the spot one of the constabulary as he lay asleep. The accused was tried at his own island in the presence of a considerable number of his countrymen. They all with one accord approved of the sentence of capital punishment. In this case it was not possible to find any extenuating circumstance that could justify commutation of the sentence. The convict had no personal grudge against his victim; the latter belonged to a Gulf tribe, and it was therefore impossible that there ever could have been any intertribal quarrels in which these two men were both interested. The crime could only be imputed to the murderous propensity of the convict. The fact that the murdered man was a member of the constabulary gave a peculiar prominence to the case, as did also the notoriously bad character of the convict. He was accordingly executed at his island on the 2nd August, 1893. This was the first time in which the extreme penalty of the law was carried out on a native for the murder of one of his own countrymen. In all previous cases there had been mitigating circumstances that could be considered in favour of the convict, but these were totally wanting in this instance.

A native of Bakera, on Duau Island, was sentenced to death at a sitting of the court at Samarai. Some three or four years ago a Greek trader had taken some men from Bakera to fish for him. They were all drowned, and the tribe killed a white trader as "payment." This convict was one of the assailants. In view of the length of time that had already elapsed since the murder, and in consideration of the circumstances involving by tribal custom the taking of life in compensation, the sentence was commuted to penal servitude.

A third conviction was a second man that had also some share in the murder of the trader. His case was dealt with in the same way as the last preceding one.

A native of Meoki, on Duau Island, was sentenced to capital punishment at Samaria for the murder of another native that some years previously had killed his mother. This murder took place in a remote and unfrequented part of the island, and was the closing item in a long account of murder and revenge between two families. These circumstances were allowed to weigh in favour of the convict's life.

A case almost exactly similar to the last was dealt with at the same time. A native of Kwanau one day met on the path a mountaineer of Duau that had in bygone times killed his mother. He at once cleft the skull of the mountaineer with a large bush knife he happened to carry. The accused admitted the crime, but considered he had only done his duty. In this position it was possible to find grounds for commutation.

A tribe at Baiio, on Fugusson, believed themselves to be afflicted by the machinations of a witch, and the community rose against her. She said to the chief, "You take and drown me and all the people will be satisfied." He took the old woman by the hand and led her to the beach, put her in a canoe, tied a stone to her feet and another to her neck, pushed out to deep water, and threw her overboard. The accused defended himself by saying he drowned her because she was killing people by witchcraft. The peculiar circumstances of the case were considered to justify clemency.

A native of Koiari, village of Giniori, was convicted of the murder of his wife under brutal circumstances. They had been in the garden at work, and she refused to carry home a bunch of bananas. He had a tomahawk in his hand, with which he at once cleft her skull. The fact that the murder was quite unpremeditated, and that the weapon happened to be in his hand at the critical moment, was taken into consideration, and the sentence was commuted to an unusually long term of penal servitude.

Two men of the hill tribe of Ebei, in the Central District, were sentenced to capital punishment under peculiar circumstances. It appeared that a member of the Ebei tribe died, and that someone had suggested that the natives of Gehudu had killed him by sorcery. Ebei consequently attacked Gehudu and killed several people. Only two of the assailants were brought to trial. These tribes

had been but little in contact with any others under Government influence, and the two convicts were only ordinary participants in a general onset. It would have been harsh to order the sentences to be carried out.

A native of the village of Sui, on the Fly Estuary, was sentenced to capital punishment for killing another man by an arrow.

There had been a quarrel in the village in connection with a girl that had eloped. When the constabulary went to make an arrest, a woman that was frightened dropped her child and the fall killed it. The accused, the father of the child, discharged an arrow some time later at the girl's father, but, missing him, struck another man in the breast so that he died of the wound.

Two men of Toaripi in the east end of the Gulf, were convicted of the murder of a small boy and were sentenced to capital punishment. The boy had stolen some tobacco belonging to them. They knew that the Government punished murderers; but they did not think the Government would interfere on account of a small orphan boy. They said they killed him "because he was no good." The crime was really imputable to the want of appreciation of the value of human life. But they were the first cases of the kind from the district.

A native of the village of Taina, at the foot of the Mekeo range of mountains, was convicted of the murder of a child. A woman had eloped and fled to another tribe, taking with her a young child by a former husband. He went with a friend to bring back the child. On the return journey, the friend suggested that they should kill the child because its mother had run away. The father at first objected, but his scruples were overcome by his companion, who killed the child accordingly. It was stated in evidence that it was not customary to destroy a child under such circumstances; but there is some reason to doubt this. It seemed tolerably clear that the convict honestly believed that it was the right thing to do. It did not appear that law or justice could gain anything by the execution of this young man. His capture was effected at great trouble in the mountains, and the term of penal servitude will be sufficient warning to the district.

The 26 sittings of the Central Court in its criminal jurisdiction were held as below:—

In the Western Division - - - -	2
In the Central Division - - - -	10
In the Eastern Division - - - -	8
In the South-eastern Division - - -	6

Seven cases—one for defamation and six for sedition—were brought before the Central Court on appeal, with the result that the convictions were quashed.

There were 20 cases awaiting trial by the Central Court at the end of the year.

Of the 102 cases charged before the Courts of Petty Sessions with indictable offences, 77 were for murder, one soliciting to commit murder, one for infanticide, eight for wounding, and two for

assault, making 88 cases for actual violence. Some five may be classed as sexual crimes; of these three were convicted, one of indecent assault, and two of abusing a girl under 10 years of age.

No case occurred of supplying arms or ammunition to a native. There were two charges involving breaches of the Liquor Ordinance, in one of which a conviction was recorded, while the other case was dismissed.

Of the 94 cases tried in the Courts of the Magistrates for Native Matters, 47 were for larceny, of which 38 were convicted. The next most common offence was assault, presenting 20 cases, of which only one was dismissed. Adultery comes next with 12 cases and eight convictions. Four cases of sorcery were heard; of these two were dismissed.

The total number of cases brought before the Courts has been :—

1893–94.	1892–93.	1891–92.	1890–91.	1889–90.
317	138	142	81	71

There are doubtless hundreds of crimes each year that are not brought before the magistrates, but the number of serious crimes committed is undoubtedly greatly diminished. But although this is unquestionably true, it also a fact that the crimes now made known to the Government become steadily, greatly more numerous. In many districts a crime cannot now be committed without punishment following, where three or four years ago scores of grave crimes could be, and actually were, perpetrated without the cognisance of the Government. If the spread of authority continues uninterruptedly, there will, for the above reason, be a great apparent increase of crime, while its actual amount will be in the inverse ratio. That is to say, that fewer crimes will be committed, but a constantly increasing proportion of them, larger both absolutely and relatively, will be dealt with by the Courts. The Papuan has undoubtedly a keen, though a perverted, sense of justice. His whole system of ethics has for foundation the principle of compensation. Compensation for a crime may be given in blood or property. Only time and experience can convince him that it is safer for himself to leave the State to extort the "payment" for a crime. He is quite clear that "payment" must be had in some form or other.

Administrative Visits of Inspection.

12. Towards the end of June a visit was begun from Port Moresby eastward. It was found that the sea-pile dwellings of Kaile were, now that safety on land is assured, being abandoned for buildings ashore. A suitable member of the community was appointed village policeman. At Kappakappa several thousand young

cocoanut trees, planted by the natives under Government prompting, were seen to be thriving well.

The Government station at Rigo was in good condition, growing the greater part of the food required for police and prisoners. Several thousand cocoanut trees were doing remarkably well. Many plants of economic value—such as different kinds of cotton and rice—were nearly ready for giving out in distribution, if anyone could be found to plant them. The district was so thoroughly pacified that murders had ceased, and village and house burials been discontinued; the most disquieting matter was the large number of deaths caused by snake-bite in this district.

13. Shortly before Aroma (called Galoma in their own tongue) was reached there had been a great inter-tribal fight, in which over 30 men had been wounded, and two or three killed. The former combatants had now, however, become reconciled, being determined to settle their own differences, and to jointly resist the Government. They could put some 400 to 500 spearmen in the field—a force that was somewhat formidable in the face of a score of polyglot, raw, undrilled recruits. It was decided to temporise, and, in order to avoid bloodshed if possible, to try the effect of continued firm moral pressure. After a visit to the tribes at Aroma, during which the consequences of hostilities between them and the Government were very plainly put before them, the party ascended the Upugau River, which goes inland behind the Aroma lands, and then turns away northward to the main range of mountains. This cutting the tribe off behind had considerable moral effect on them, and when visited again to receive their decision as to whether they would surrender the ringleaders or fight, some of them were delivered up. The escape of one of them from the "Merrie England" undid most of what had been accomplished, on which a number of the young men of the tribe were surrounded and arrested, and all arms found in Aroma were burned. About a dozen were tried before the Central Court, and a few were sentenced to terms of imprisonment. Subsequently the principals still wanted were arrested or given up by the tribe. Half-a-dozen good men were appointed village policemen in Aroma, and these have ever since done their duty well.

The complete subjugation of this tribe without bloodshed was undoubtedly one of the most successful achievements of the Government. The patience of those concerned was submitted to a very severe trial; but in no other case has the result been more complete and satisfactory.

14. An inspection of certain places in the east end of the Possession was begun at Samarai in the second half of July. At Suau it was learned that all was quiet in that neighbourhood. At Samarai the prison was clean, comfortable, and in good order, and the prisoners were engaged in filling up the swamp. A slip suitable for trading vessels was being built, and some new buildings were in progress, all the result of private enterprise.

The Rev. Mr. Abel contemplated stationing a teacher at Samarai, and of founding an industrial settlement on the mainland for past pupils of the Kwato school.

At Nivani, the Government Station for the Louisiades, a good weatherboard house had been finished for the Resident Magistrate, and the other necessary buildings had been constructed.

At Panaietti a handsome church had been built by the Rev. Mr. Fellowes, and the people of the Island were fast coming under the influence of the Mission.

At Griffin Point, on Sudest Island, there was the very unusual occurrence of a criminal charge against a European before the Central Court. In this instance the accused was acquitted. Several questions raised by the Europeans there were discussed and dealt with, and a few complaints attended to. The relations between the Europeans and natives were good. A Justice of the Peace was appointed for the island. On the south side of Sudest certain natives charged with having committed crimes, or of being accomplices, were arrested and tried, practically completing all outstanding cases of the kind on this island.

It was found at Rossel Island that a considerable number of the coast natives collected a few articles of native produce for European traders. All North Coast villages were visited as far as the east end of the island, and were perfectly quiet and friendly. A rough survey, but sufficient for practical purposes, was made by Captain Jones of the harbour of Pennegwa, at the east end of Rossel Island; and observations were made at Loa (Adele) Island. There was no European resident on Rossel Island.

At Ware (Teste Island) the only matter causing trouble—a case of adultery— was dealt with.

15. The Island of Nuakata was examined in August. It has excellent anchorage and a considerable population, but poor soil. The people are quiet and peaceful. A suitable man was appointed policeman for the island. All coast villages were touched at from Cape Karitahua, the most southerly point of Duau, round the west coast as far as Dobu. On the south coast they were very friendly towards the Government—a feeling that was largely owing to the fact that some of their men were members of the constabulary.

It became known on this tour that there are hot and boiling springs at Waipoiana, at the foot of Mount Sobia. The villagers on Sewa Harbour were quiet and well-disposed, some of the men desiring to enter the constabulary force.

An understanding was come to with the Bakera people, many of whom had been leading wild and irregular lives ever since the murder of the trader Morro there two years before, by which they should settle down and assist the constabulary to secure the principals.

The Wesleyan teacher of Sikiruku, on Fergusson Island, was met on Sunday performing a round of regular services on the

adjacent coast of Duau. He had a circle of places round his permanent establishment at which he holds service every Sunday. By this arrangement these teachers are creating a wide circle of influence. The natives of Sikiruku and Begasse had greatly improved in demeanour. The teacher at the former place had about 200 hearers; the teacher at the latter some 500, in addition to which he occasionally has nearly 200 bushmen. A Fijian teacher at Baiio had about 300 hearers.

Under the firm discipline practised at Dobu in the schools and services established there very extraordinary progress has been made. The teachers were gaining a very beneficial influence on the coast of Fergusson east of Baiio, at Nekumaru, and in the provincial villages of Dobu. Churches had been built, and the tribes were settling down to quiet and regular lives.

At Yakuta Island they were peaceful and prosperous, and the same could be said of the island of Gawa. An effort of the constabulary to arrest two evil-doers on Murua was not successful.

At Nada, where it is not difficult to maintain the good order established, a new chief was appointed. While the steamer was anchored at Wavepu Bay, west of Suloga Hill, an inspection was made of the long-sought quartzite quarries from which the banded stone is obtained that is so widely distributed in stone axes.

Advantage was taken of the fine weather to land on the coral island of Iwa. No anchorage could be discovered, but the interior of the island was found to be a depressed, thickly inhabited plateau, similar in shape and formation to the islands of Kitava, Gawa, and Kwaiwata. They had entered into trading relations with a European that visits them periodically.

The island of Kitava was in a satisfactory state. Visits were made to the Kiriwina villages of Wawera, Omaràkana, &c., where matters appeared to be fairly satisfactory. The inhabited islands of the Lusancy Group, so named by D'Entrecasteaux, were all called at, and their positions approximately ascertained. They are all small, and only some of them inhabited. They appear to be all coralline except three, which are volcanic. Their trading relations are chiefly with Kwaibwaga (Goodenough). The inhabitants are peaceful.

All the tribes on the east of Fergusson Island were next visited. Some of them were very shy, but none unfriendly. It was noticed to be customary in certain tribes at the foot of the northern range to carry a slab of mica to serve as a mirror, and it was thought this matter might be worth some attention from traders.

The bubbling springs near Cape Labillardiere were found, but they were cold and not of much interest. The adjacent coasts of Fergusson and Kwaibwaga were carefully traversed, and all natives met with were well-disposed.

16. At Wedau, on the north-east coast, a church was being opened by the Rev. C. King, head of the Anglican Mission. Nearly 300 natives were present, and behaved well, seeming to be

proud of the church, which they largely assisted to build. The Rev. C. King went with the party to visit the north-east coast. The principal chief of the Paiwa district was landed at home after undergoing a term of imprisonment, and was appointed rural constable for that neighbourhood. The coast was traversed by boat from Cape Nelson to the mouth of the Musa River, then found for the first time. There are no villages on the coast in that part of the country until Ketakerua Bay is reached, on which there are several of considerable size. These people were at first prepared for war, but soon became friendly. Their country is flat, low, and swampy at most places.

The natives of Oifabama and Eroro were reserved and suspicious, but there were no actual disagreements with them. There was, however, great difficulty in communicating with them, owing to complete ignorance of their or any language north of Collingwood Bay.

Gona (Halnicote) Bay was fully examined. The villagers were at first timid and prepared for hostilities, but peaceful relations were established and maintained, though they might have been disturbed by the numerous and thievish population. The country there is flat and low. Some of the men are of very powerful physique, they possess a great number of good canoes, but they do not appear to use them for sailing. Just north of Gona Bay, friendly relations were opened with the natives living near the mouth of Kumusi River. There is no village close to the river there. Five or six miles north of the Kumusi a courteous tribe was visited, whose village is only sufficiently far from the beach to be out of sight from the sea. Women and children were the first to approach and meet the party.

The steamer took up a good anchorage in Douglas Harbour, a mile or so south of Mitre Rock, and observations were made at the rock itself for position.

The mouths of the Mambare River were next found and the position of one of the mouths obtained; and a halt was made at the mouth of the smaller Ikore River, which was found to enter the sea in German territory.

On the return journey all the tribes at the foot of Mount Trafalgar and in Collingwood Bay were visited, and friendly trading had with each, though on our approach several of them turned out armed. All the tribes in the vicinity of Philips Harbour came and visited the steamer when at anchor there.

17. At the end of December a tour of inspection was made to the west of Port Moresby which extended as far as the Purari delta. At Orokolo the people were holding high festival because some of them had successfully and by stealth murdered three of the Iare tribe. The Purari was flooded, and there was very great difficulty in ascending it beyond the Bevan Rapid. No natives were met with until the Aure, the first considerable branch, was reached, at about four-score miles from the sea. There a number of men of the Epai tribe were seen; they were obtaining trees for

canoes. The Aure was navigable for only two or three miles, at which distance it comes over rapids that are inaccessible to boats. It lies between rugged sandstone mountains. The Purari was ascended by the steam launch to something over 120 miles from the sea. The current was extremely strong and the ascent very difficult. The river, as soon as it meets the great sandstone main range, turns away to the west, a course it pursues as far as it has as yet been followed.

Traces of natives, but no actual settlement were seen before the highest point attained by the steamer was reached. The presence of the party was discovered by natives at that point, but they hurriedly continued their journey up stream to alarm their tribe. The journey was continued up the river four days in the river boat alone beyond the point at which the steamer had to be left. The boat could not make more than two or three miles a day. At the highest point reached there was settled a tribe called Biróe. These were naturally greatly surprised, and instinctively kept on strict guard. They very successfully hid themselves away, and left no trace of their presence, until they suddenly struck the war-drum and yelled their war-cry. After much preliminary trouble, friendly relations at close quarters were entered into. They are evidently of the Papuan family, and speak a dialect containing root and common words met with elsewhere in the Possession. They cultivate tobacco, sweet potatoes, and bananas.

There was practically very little level land on the Purari after it first entered the hilly zone until the neighbourhood of Biróe was reached, and there was little sago. What small areas of flat land did exist were all cut up by deep gullies formed by violent floods in the river. The whole district is of sandstone formation, and is well wooded. The Purari is more than one-third, but less than half the size of the Fly River. It is the second largest river in the Possession.

In descending the river the presence of coal was detected at Abukiru Island. The analyses given in the appended report by Mr. Jack* show that the coal is of excellent quality. There has been so far no opportunity of making a proper examination of the district. Our knowledge at present is confined to this: That there is a large sandstone area there, and that it contains good coal.

Some progress was made in committing the Maipua language to writing.

A night was spent at the village of Iare on the Purari delta. They were friendly, and were warned against taking revenge on the Orokolo tribe, who, they were told, would be dealt with by the Government. The population is great, and lives almost entirely on sago.

The ground on which their houses stand is in many instances below the level of spring tides.

* Not printed.

A night was then spent at the village of Koriki. There is a large population there, and they were not familiar with Europeans. At first threatening and friendly in turn, they soon became thievish and insolent, and there was very great difficulty in staving off hostilities until next morning. At least 200 bowmen manned the banks of the river below, and a like number above, the village, occupying each side so that the party must pass along between the two long files a short half-bowshot from each. They were successfully dispersed by rifle fire, and the party extricated itself without sustaining any casualty.

A few days later a visit was paid to the large neighbouring village of Maipua. This community was well warned beforehand that if any of them lifted a bow it would be regarded as the commencement of hostilities. They received the party very quietly, all arms having been put away out of sight. They professed their willingness to receive a teacher, and to build a church; and they supplied three recruits for the constabulary. At Orokolo, the local name of which is Havida, the tribe received the option of fighting or of surrendering those that had murdered the three Iare people. After due deliberation they gave up all, save one, that had fled; they also sent three young men into the constabulary.

18. At the end of February a tour of inspection of the north-east coast was begun. Carriers and interpreters for inland travelling were engaged at Taupota, Wedau, and Paiwa. The coast line was traversed from Ipote to Dako (Fir-tree Point) by boat. The inland party were landed on the Mobiri Creek, and were conducted to near the foot of Mount Maneáo. At first the numerous natives of the district were timid and suspicious, but soon became friendly and rendered valuable assistance. The party successfully established friendly relations with a large number of new tribes, and made also valuable collections.

Further observations were made at the mouth of the Ikore River, which confirmed those made formerly, and placed that spot nearly a mile and a-half inside German territory: the natives there were at first friendly, but became thievish, and then put on an unfriendly aspect. As soon as it was clear that the mouth of the river was outside British New Guinea it was left, although it appears that the river enters the Possession within a very few miles of the sea. A camp was then formed at the north-west mouth of the Mambare River (the Clyde of the charts), and the ascent of that river was begun from that point. A guard with spare stores was left at the mouth of the river. Villages were met with five or six miles from the sea. The people were greatly alarmed at first and prepared to fight, but eventually friendly approaches were made by two men. Many extensive sago-fields and some unoccupied good alluvial land were passed the first day. Some large villages were reached at something over a score of miles from the sea. The hostile demonstrations of the natives there, as

in all other villages, were soon set aside. It was not the outcome of a warlike disposition, but the result of timidity and suspicion.

The unmarried women were naked, and the men loaded with native jewellery. The peculiar characteristic of the men was that as soon as it was clear that we had not come for the purpose of making war they danced and sang. At several of the villages they put up a taboo to keep us from landing. A considerable number of villages was passed before the launch had made two score of miles beyond which she could not ascend the rapids. The journey was continued by boat for about a dozen miles more, when rapids were met with up which it was not advisable to take a boat. In the last 20 miles there were no villages, and the river passed between low hills for the last half-score of miles. Its bed contained a great variety of stones, including large boulders of quartz containing much iron pyrites. Traces of gold were found. It seemed strange that although the district contained great sago fields, the natives hardly used it; but make extensive gardens of taro, &c., from which they chiefly live. They had no tobacco plant, no papaya, and no pumpkin. They cook in rude pottery. Some good land could be had on this river for settlement.

Additional observations were made at Mitre Rock, which again put it nearly three miles inside British territory.

Some 10 or 12 miles of the Ope River were examined by the steam launch. This small stream opens into the sea in front of Gumboro Hill, a conspicuous landmark as far down the coast as as it can be seen. There are many small villages on and near the Ope, all of whom were friendly and willing to barter. The Ope is a low country river, traversing swampy land, and receiving no branches from the main central range of mountains.

The Kumusi River was next examined. A guard was left at the mouth of the river with spare stores, some of which, however, the natives were able to steal, in spite of the vigilance of the Papuan guard. There are many gardens on the banks of this river from three to seven or eight miles from the sea; but after that they disappear, the country being low and swampy, with many fine fields of sago trees. Native settlement is sparse on the lower part of the river. The first hill was nearly three dozen miles from the sea, and was composed of lava.

At the highest point reached by the launch there were fine plateaus of alluvial forest land, and the neighbouring country composed of low rolling hills, with fine valleys between. The sun was very hot during the day, but soon after dark it became cool, and before morning there was a cold breeze from the great mountain range.

The launch got aground in keeping out of the current and could not be got off until the river rose during the night. Many natives soon came round the launch, all prepared to fight on the spot, but friendly relations were established. The Kumusi is clearly, like the Mambare, a stream that has its rise in the main

central range of mountains. In descending the river the steam launch struck a concealed "snag," and sank in deep water and was lost.

A few days afterwards the Basari Creek was examined for a few miles. There are no villages on the part of it seen by the party, but it has some good forest land about three miles from the sea. It rises on the Hydrographer Range of mountains. A large tribe was come into contact with there. They seemed to live somewhere not far from the coast. They became friendly, and appeared in great numbers—men, women, and children—next day.

It was found that a considerable creek opens into the sea at Cape Sudest. It is called Tambokoro, and comes from Hydrographer Range.

From a camp formed at the mouth of the Kevoto Creek, it and the Umunda Creek were examined. The country on them is so low and wet as to be worthless. The natives in their vicinity were very friendly.

Some three dozen miles of the Musa River were examined by boat. At that distance the country was beginning to lose the character of swamp it had so far kept. Several small villages were passed, with all of which a good footing was established. It is a fine stream, and no doubt has its rise on the main range of mountains. A party at the same time examined part of the foot of Mount Victory on its north face, and established relations with a considerable tribe there. They found the country very rough. The people in the vicinity of Phillips' Harbour were again visited, and the party examining Maneao were met and removed. They had successfully executed their task.

19. In the middle of April the prisoners and the prison were inspected at Samarai. All the Port Moresby prisoners were there then, occupied in reclaiming the swamp. Their condition was satisfactory and the work making fair progress. The communities at East Cape and at Dobu were all quiet and peaceable. A number of carriers were engaged at Dobu for transport on the island of Kwaibwaga, the upper lands of which were examined. The tribes met with became friendly. The pearl fishery was being actively prosecuted at the Kiriwina Group, and no native disturbances were reported there. All pearls were being procured by natives and sold to traders. The villages of Gawa Island were inspected, and all seem to be quiet and prosperous. The village constable at Omdamudu, on Murua, had steadily extended his authority and influence, but an effort to arrest an old offender in the interior miscarried. The curious Veneina (Cannac) rock was examined; and all outstanding administrative business at Nada was disposed of. On the east side of Fergusson Island a short visit showed all to be quiet there.

At Ware Island the people were busy erecting a new church. They are a settled, industrious community. At Sudest Island a quartz reef was examined which seemed to contain payable gold.

The relations between Europeans and natives appeared to be good. The natives were said to be actively prosecuting the gold-washing industry on their own account. Yela (Rossel) Island was gone round in the whaleboat, and no disturbance was met with; but an inter-tribal fight, the investigation of which will occupy some time on the spot, was reported at Yongga Bay. A sitting of the Central Court was held there. At Misima there did not appear to be any serious matter to deal with. There are only two village constables on the island. All was quiet and orderly in their districts; but the attitude of two or three tribes on the north side was not satisfactory, showing as it did much suspicion of the Government.

20. In the end of April a first visit was made to Darava, in Table Bay. A party was despatched inland, opposite Mairu Island, to open communication with the mountain tribes in that vicinity. They were absent two weeks and established friendly intercourse with many villages. Not far from the sea they found some fine flats of unoccupied rich lands, which are said to be fit for sugar cultivation. While we were camped at Darava, and after satisfactory relations had been established with all the people that had assembled for a great festival there, a descent was made by a federation of some two dozen hill villages on the coast people. Diverted from Darava, they during the night surrounded the coast village of Magaubo and killed, it was said, over 30 people. They were followed up by the constabulary among their own hills, but declined a general pitched battle, taking to the bush in small parties. The ringleaders were forced, by public opinion, to meet the constabulary in flying skirmish with what following they could muster, and some of them have lost their lives. Several have been captured, but it will take some time to resettle the people in their villages. One could not, from their country, see any indication of native settlements between these tribes and the main range behind them, so that there may not be an inner zone to descend on these in turn.

The chief of Domara was, after a term of imprisonment, restored to his village. His demeanour and the conduct of his tribe appeared satisfactory. But they, too, have subsequently been in trouble from the descent on them of some hill tribe.

At the village of Eaula (near Cape Rodney of the charts) a suitable man was appointed Government chief.

Great improvement was observed at Vererupu. New and good houses have been built on an excellent site; and they have two very good village policemen. The next tribe inland is not behind them in police matters.

The nephew of the deceased chief of Aroma, Koapena, was appointed to succeed him in the headship of the community, this collateral succession being in accordance with the usage and traditions of the tribe. No disturbance had arisen in the district since the death of the old chief. The six village policemen seemed to be quite fit to maintain order in the neighbourhood, though it

has a population of 3,000 to 4,000. The chief policeman is now the most important authority in the place.

At Keapara a substantial and very handsome church, built by the Rev. W. Pearse, was inspected. At Kalo, Kamali, and Hula decided progress in the right direction was noted.

21. In the end of June a brief visit was made to the Mekeo district. The Father Superior was seriously ill at Ravao, and two or three other members of the mission were sick.

A new mission recently opened at Abiara by a Brother of the Sacred Heart Mission was making a very satisfactory start. At Bereina mission work and teaching are now in full operation; the people are quiet and orderly. At Inawi the Rev. Father Vitali has his mission in complete working order, and everything was satisfactory, with the exception of a bigamy by the principal chief. All the principal chiefs of the district assembled at the Government station to report to the Administrator. Each one brought a small present with him, consisting of food, all of which they consumed before they left. The whole district was perfectly quiet and peaceful. Cemetery burial is now warmly supported by the Sacred Heart Mission; and two members of that body, a brother and a sister, have been interred in the village cemeteries of Yeku and Inawi. The Government station was in a creditable condition; most of the imported economic plants were doing well, but the want of a resident overseer was apparent. The Rev. H. Dauncey is now permanently stationed at the London Missionary Society settlement at Delena.

Reports by Officers.

22. The Resident Magistrate for the Western Division has noted a marked improvement in the moral and social conduct of the natives under his control. The record of crime was heavier than before, which means that such things are becoming better known. He was successful in compelling the Doropotamurubi tribe to surrender some of their number implicated in murder. One of the points in which Mr. Hely has been most successful is the training of the village constables. He now manages to have the greater part of the police work done by them; he has also maintained very good discipline in the constabulary detachment stationed at Daru under his orders.

23. The Resident Magistrate for the Central Division has not, on account of prolonged absence from ill-health, been able to supply an exhaustive report. He could not visit the western villages, but this was done by the Government Agent of Mekeo; and those accused of crime were then dealt with. Mr. Lawes enumerates the onslaughts made by hill tribes, and draws attention to the rapid progress of the coast tribes as loyal subjects of the Queen. He points out also the greatly extended trading cruises of coast tribes.

24. The Government Agent of Mekeo is able to report that in his populous district no serious crimes were committed during the year, and that the people now travel long journeys without carrying arms. The inland tribes visited last year by the Government Agent give no trouble there, but, on the contrary, have come in numbers to pay friendly visits to Mekeo tribes. The difficulty of dealing with house burials he regards as practically at an end. The number of the village constables has been increased, but no native has been appointed a magistrate there. A considerable number of valuable economic plants are doing well at the station. The Gros Michel banana, inported from the West Indies, has proved a success in this country, and is being distributed. Mr. Kowald appreciates the work of the Sacred Heart Mission in his district, the members of which work hand in hand with him. He draws attention to the deaths from snake-bite.

25. As Mr. Graham was acting as Resident Magistrate for only a very short time in the Louisiades, his report is very brief. At the Government station 750 cocoanuts were planted, and some 14 acres of land cleared. He reports that about a score of diggers were on Misima, some of them not making a living; there are a few more on Sudest Island than on Misima, and they have better prospects.

26. Mr. English, Government Agent for the Rigo district, has furnished a very interesting report. He is gratified by the greatly improved moral condition of his district, and this amelioration is extending to the inland tribes behind the Rigo country. The planting of cocoanuts has been successfully pushed. Mr. English thinks that over 60,000 have been planted within one day's ride of the Government station. He mentions also two cocoanut plantations worked by Europeans, containing respectively 16,000 and 7,000 young plants, all doing well. Only two cases of village burial came under notice during the year.

Four cases of murder, committed in the mountains, remained for investigation. Mr. English was travelling 216 days during the year. A large number of imported valuable plants are doing well at the station. Useful imformation will be found in this report dealing with the inner life of the people, and well worth perusal.

27. Mr. R. J. Kennedy, Magistrate for native matters in the Eastern Division, supplies a short report on the district. He points out that the chiefs had little or no real power. A number of them come to the station once a week to report.

Sorcery, formerly troublesome in the district, has had a rude shock from the imprisonment of some of the sorcerers. On Tauwara there were vexatious inter-tribal disputes as to the boundaries of land. He finds that the influence of the Government has extended in all directions; but he complains of the bad and indifferent houses of the natives. In the hill villages, burials regulations are not, as a rule, enforced. The planting of cocoanuts

by the natives is being pushed on successfully, and fortunately the Papuan proprietor begins in some places to look on this as making a provision for the future. The natives prefer engaging to work for short terms, and do not hesitate to complain to a Government officer if they consider themselves ill-used. But as a matter of fact native employees are generally indulgently treated by their employers.

28. Mr. David White, an intelligent and observant man, who has resided some five or six years on Sudest, supplies an interesting report on that island. He points out that they have there no wet and dry season, but have heavy rains all the year round. The women have the chief share of the work of cultivating the soil. The villages are kept scrupulously clean.

One of the most interesting points mentioned by Mr. White is the occurrence of totemism on the Sudest Island. He states that it exists, follows the maternal and not the paternal side, and that people of the same totem do not intermarry. This matter requires further investigation. Instances are known in the D'Entrecasteaux Group and in Mekeo, of marriage being considered irregular if contracted into the mother's family, but no trace of totemism has ever been found there or elsewhere outside of Sudest. Natives of Yela (Rossell) say they never heard of it, and many intelligent natives of the mainland declare that the idea is quite new to them. There can be no doubt that Mr. White is correct in what he relates as to the need for enforcement of the Burial Regulation on Sudest. The attention of the Resident Magistrate has been drawn to this matter. It should have been dealt with long ago. The custom of peeling off and keeping the epidermis of the corpse is very curious when considered side by side with the practice, now suppressed, in the Rigo district, of peeling off the epidermis to discover the person that had caused the death of the deceased.

Mr. White, who is a trader and must be well qualified to speak on the subject, says the boys are now able and willing to work in the gullies for gold with which to purchase things they want. They have in this way, and from fear of punishment, ceased to steal.

29. The report by Mr. Guise on the work done by the party he conducted to the northern range called Maneáo gives a graphic description of inland travelling in New Guinea. This mountain is a part of the so-called Hornby Range, the eastern end of the chain that has its highest points in the peaks of Goropu. The latter is so steep and rugged that its ascent will be attended with very great physical difficulty. It will be noticed that, although Mr. Guise and his party were engaged in country entirely new to Europeans, they had no collision with the native inhabitants, and had no opposition from them beyond the passive resistance presented at the first entry of their district. One of the principal objects was to find, if possible, the source of all the jade used by the natives as stone axes. It is now made highly probable that it all comes from the Maneáo district, and finds its way in barter

across the great central range to Cloudy Bay. The vicinity of its origin has been pointed out, but the spot itself has not been examined yet. There is, however, reason to believe that jade occurs on Goropu as well as on Maneáo, as small fragments of the surface jade were found both in the Kwagila and Dako streams. A more extended search will have to be made for the source of this mineral, which may be of considerable commercial value.

NATIVE LAND TENURE.

30. Mr. Hely reports on the land tenure of the Masingara tribe. It is of special interest in that district, because they appear to be the original owners of all the soil now occupied by certain other tribes whose tenure was reported on last year. They never heard of their ancestors having lived elsewhere, and do not consider the other tribes near them to be proprietors of the soil. Land descends lineally, the lands being divided equally among the children; so that a woman can own land until she marries; then it passes to the males of her family, the children belonging to the father's side. Sago and fruit trees bear the private mark of the owner. Fencing is communal, but planting individual. House-building is communal.

31. Mr. English states that in the Humeni and Saboia tribes land is held generally by the individual. It descends to the eldest son, but may be divided among all the children equally. It appears that the land cannot pass out of the tribe.

The tenure of the Kwaipo tribe seems to be exactly similar.

In the Tupuseleia tribe, virgin forest is common land, and it becomes private property when cleared and used as such. Women never own land; it descends lineally. Clearing land is communal, and planting is individual. The sago trees belong to the man that plants them.

32. Captain Hennessy's Report on the Land Tenure of the Wagawaga tribe, on Tauwara, shows that land there is held on individual ownership, can be held by women, and descends both lineally and collaterally. Both selling and leasing land is known to this tribe. Land is also given in compensation to an aggrieved person. Children belong to the woman's tribe, and the husband marrying her lives in her tribe. A person can bequeath his land to whom he pleases. If not bequeathed it passes to the owner's brother.

THE TABU.

33. On the interesting question of the custom of the tabu as practised in the Possession, valuable information has been supplied from several quarters.

The Rev. Copland King reports on it in the district of Wedau. There when a man dies, all the cocoanuts in his village are tabued

for the feasts connected with his decease. A man may tabu his cocoanuts to all persons except himself; they may be forbidden to the community by the chief men by blowing the conch-shell. Women also tabu certain garden produce; fishing is also forbidden at times.

They have also tabus that are put on by incantations, which are paid for, being the vested interest and private property of the individual that knows, puts on, and takes off the charm. The consequence of breaking the charmed tabu is bodily sickness of some kind.

The Rev. W. Bromilow mentions two kinds of tabu as being in use at Dobu, the tabu of custom and the tabu of the sorcerer. The professional wizard working for hire imposes the latter, and he only can remove it; the penalty of breaking it is sickness. Many very interesting and important examples of the tabu of custom are numerated, such as that of marrying into a mother's village, and of being tabu for having eaten of a dead body from the grave. It is also forbidden to name the dead.

Mr. English shows that the tabu is used in the Rigo district to ensure a full supply of food at the great feasts. For this purpose the prohibition is applied only to certain gardens. It is generally imposed by the chief.

Mr. R. Kennedy mentions among the tabus of custom that a native in some places cannot marry a woman of his own village, or a woman from his own side of a line in the village. To such an extent is the tabu of the name of the deceased carried that one cannot inform a person orally of the death of a relative; to do so would be resented as a personal injury.

Mr. R. Guise says that all tabus imposed at Hood Peninsula are, with the exception of the tabu on young cocoanuts on indications of an approaching famine, put on for the purpose of providing food for feasts. The punishment for breaking this is purely of the material and practical kind—fines in kind and personal chastisement.

Captain Hennessy shows that the charmed tabu is exercised at Wagawaga, and that the evil effects on a person breaking it can be removed by confession and an antidote.

It appears to be the case that, over a great part of the country, the power of putting on the charmed tabu, which entails dire material consequences (due to magic) on the person that breaks it, is put on by the hereditary sorcerer, who obtains his powers by inheritance or by purchase, and who retains a strict, literally exclusive, right to his knowledge. He works for hire, and as he alone can impose the tabu, so also he only can remove it.

NATIVE DIALECTS.

34. Three native dialects will be found in the Appendix.* The very copious vocabulary of the Kabadi language has been drawn

* Not printed.

up by Mr. Green. As might be expected, it is very nearly related to the Motuan language.

Of the other two dialects, the vocabulary of Maipua will be the more useful, on account of the large number of people to whom it is known. It appears to be the language of all the tribes on the Purari Delta. It supplies the link that is wanting to connect the Central dialects with that of the Iasa (Kiwai) people. Fortunately, it is easy to understand, to write, and to speak. It can, therefore, be reduced to a useful form without great labour.

It has been quite otherwise with the language of Yela (Rossel Island). This dialect is by far the most intractable that has been met with in the Possession. It has a peculiar and special philological interest by reason of the position of the place, at the extreme south-east end of the islands of New Guinea, being little further from the Solomon Islands than from the Papuan mainland. The Yela people have, further, never until now intermarried with those of any other island. Two difficulties meet one at the outset; many of them speak with a muffled intonation that is exasperating to the orthographist, and they use sounds that cannot be expressed by any combination of letters in the English alphabet. To this may be added the fact that hardly any two men ever pronounce a word the same way. This vocabulary has been now written out four times, and there is wide dissimilarity between any two of the vocabularies. The last edition should for several reasons be the best, and it is what is now printed. It is, however, tolerably plain that five or six of the first ten numerals of this language in flux are the same words, but generally more or less disguised, as the same numbers in Polynesian languages. In others the root word appears in the simplest form, as, for example, the word "Ma" instead of "Tama" for father. In others the muffling process disguises a common word which may not at first be recognised, as "Mbwa" for "Wai." The heaping together of consonants is also remarkable. The termination "Ngini" to many or most active verbs is noteworthy, but at times it becomes a prefix. Occasionally the widely distributed name for common objects is found to be substituted by entirely new forms; thus the words for "dead," "Ebuono," and for "butterfly," "Pyaga," cannot apparently be connected with "Mate" and "Pepe," which in some form or other are met with in scores of dialects between Hawaii and Maipua. It would appear that every village on Yela uses their language as they please. In all cases the words are given as nearly as possible as pronounced in the different places at which they were written. It seems doubtful that the differences are dialectic.

Establishments.

35. The service sustained a severe loss during the year by the death of an excellent officer, Mr. Dennis Gleeson, Head Gaoler and Superintendent of Works. Mr. Gleeson maintained first-rate

order and discipline, and being an extremely kind-hearted man he soon gained great influence over the natives in his charge. He made the prison as much a training institution or reformatory as was possible under the circumstances. He was a most loyal and devoted officer, giving himself up entirely to the faithful discharge of his responsible duties. The high regard entertained for him by the natives was shown by the fact that they put on mourning for him in native fashion as if he had been one of themselves. Mr. Gleeson was succeeded by Mr. W. T. Campbell, formerly Resident Magistrate for the Louisiades.

A port of entry was opened at Daru, the Government Station in the Western Division, and Mr. De Lange has been temporarily employed as an extra officer there. Mr. W Palmer was compelled, on health considerations, to retire from his appointment as Commandant. It is intended that Mr. Butterworth be appointed to the permanent office.

Mr. John Mahony was appointed a Justice of the Peace for the island of Sudest.

PUBLIC PROPERTY AND PUBLIC WORKS.

36. A very suitable new vessel of about 20 tons was obtained for the use of the Resident Magistrate in the Central District, which allowed the lugger formerly there to be put at the disposal of the Magistrate for the Western Division. Extensive repairs were executed on the cutter for the Louisiade Division. The river launch "Ruby" was unfortunately lost in the Kumusi River. This vessel was insured.

Mr. Hely successfully removed the Government Station for the Western Division from Mabudauan to Daru Island. The latter is much more fertile and better suited for food-growing than Mabudauan, and has a vastly better harbour for shipping of all kinds. Mr. Hely economically effected the removal at little expense.

Several new buildings, including a thoroughly sound substantial prison, were put up at the Mekeo Station. These were built by Mr. Kowald, the Government Agent, at very little cost to the public.

About three-fourths of the work of building an excellent prison was performed by Mr. Graham at Nivani. When finished it will probably be the best prison in the Possession. Arrangements have been made for its completion by old prisoners and a Solomon Island employee, under the supervision of Mr. Butterworth.

37. The principal work of the year was in reclaiming the swamp at Samarai. It was really an undertaking beyond the resources of the Government, but it became absolutely necessary to fill it up or to remove the settlement to some other place.

The actual swamp area covered some nine and a-half acres, but the total ground to be covered by filling in was considerably greater than that. By the end of the year seven acres of the

swamp was filled up, which required the preparation, removal, and laying down of over 42,000 cubic yards of earth. The 13,000 yards still required will, for the most part, have to be transported for only a short distance. Much blasting has been required in procuring the materials required, and it is a matter for congratulation that no accident of any kind has so far occurred in connection with this. This great work has completely put a stop to road-making and planting cocoanuts by the prisoners. The work was considerably facilitated by the loan of iron rails kindly granted by the Premier of Queensland.

TRADE.

Imports.

38. The total of imports entered at Port Moresby, Samarai, and Daru, respectively, has been :—

Year.	Samaria.	Port Moresby.	Daru.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1888–89 - -	6,016	5,019	—	11,108
1889–90 - -	6,798	9,305	—	16,104
1890–91 - -	7,455	8,075	—	15,530
1891–92 - -	10,379	13,377	—	23,755
1892–93 - -	13,173	12,088	—	25,261
1893–94 - -	15,331	11,428	1,741	28,501

The principal items imported have been :—

—	1888–89.	1889–90.	1890–91.	1891–92.	1892–93.	1893–94.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Food Stuffs - -	5,400	7,124	4,463	6,037	6,252	7,181
Drapery - -	1,185	1,392	1,457	2,133	2,918	2,687
Tobacco and Cigars	996	1,290	2,364	3,257	2,407	3,985
Hardware - - -	927	1,123	1,535	2,677	2,628	3,162
Beverages - -	805	1,143	688	890	1,625	1,760
Clothes - - -	550	190	255	705	496	315
Building Materials -	246	1,086	1,224	1,965	1,474	2,889
Other Articles -	999	2,756	3,554	6,091	7,261	6,522
Total - £	11,108	16,104	15,530	23,755	25,261	28,501

A considerable advance has been made on tobacco, which may be maintained in future, as trade with the natives and their employment increases; but they continue to show in certain places a decided tendency to demand something else than tobacco in payment. There is also a fair increase in hardware.

This heading is also chiefly affected by the payments made to natives. It is more likely than tobacco to be permanent in its expansion, because the number of natives requiring such articles will steadily grow, while none will cease to require hardware. The quantity of building materials imported was also considerably greater.

Exports.

The total value of exports, as entered at the Custom House, has been :—

Year.	Samarai.	Port Moresby.	Daru.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1888–89 - -	5,071	871	—	5,943
1889–90 - -	5,458	997	—	6,455
1890–91 - -	7,678	755	—	8,134
1891–92 - -	8,099	3,190	—	11,289
1892–93 - -	6,290	8,675	—	14,966
1893–94 - -	9,555	3,542	1,854	14,952

The most valuable export, according to the returns, was gold, valued at 3,906*l.* This, of course, does not show the total amount of the metal obtained, but represents the quantity entered outwards at Samarai. For the last three years the numbers of the diggers and the amount of gold entered outwards has been nearly stationary. It has fluctuated as below :—

Gold entered at the Custom House.

—	1888–89.	1889–90.	1890–91.	1891–92.	1892–93.	1893–94.
Ounces - -	3,850	3,470	2,426	1,235	582	1,128
Value - -	£14,387	£12,440	£8,371	£4,322	£2,236	£3,906

The future of gold will depend on the discovery of new fields, and on the value and development of the reefs on Sudest.

Next to gold comes pearl-shell valued at 3,366*l.*

Copra was exported to the value of 2,885*l.* The exports of this article have been :—

1888–89 - -	76 tons valued at		550*l.*
1889–90 - -	43	„ „	250*l.*
1890–91 - -	198	„ „	1,433*l.*
1891–92 - -	340	„ „	2,084*l.*
1892–93 - -	194	„ „	1,159*l.*
1893–94 - -	450	„ „	2,885*l.*

Of sandalwood, 321 tons were sent away, valued at 1,896*l.* It appears there is a considerably quantity of this product in the country, but it seems to suffer from great market fluctuations.

The value of the bêche-de-mer exported was entered at 1,714*l.* a small advance in quantity and value on last year.

By far the most valuable export of the year was that of pearls. These figure in the returns for only two packages, valued at 250*l.* At Cooktown four packages were entered as coming from the Possession and valued at 1,250*l.*; but this is very far from being the whole value of the pearls exported, which was probably about 8,000*l.* or 10,000*l.* These are found chiefly in the Kiriwina Group, but a few are procured elsewhere. They are obtained by the natives, and are sold to traders. Many of these pearls are of tints that are said to command a high price in the market.

There are several small exports that require to be worked up, but most of them require a certain amount of practical knowledge, such as the native ginger, pronounced to be of high market value; rubber, of which there appears to be large quantities, fit to command a high price. It is hoped that before long, coal, jade, sago, &c., may be added to the list.

The total amount of the trade for the year amounted to:—

	£
Imports - - - - -	28,501
Exports - - - - -	14,952
Total - - - -	£43,453

Shipping.

39. The shipping entered inwards and outwards was wholly British.

The total number of foreign-going vessels entered inwards was 35, of 3,872 tons; the entries outwards were 27 vessels, of 2,791 tons.

The bi-monthly trips of the subsided mail service have been regularly and satisfactorily performed, and have been found to be a decided public advantage.

Postal.

40. Postal business up to the end of June, 1894, has been as under:—

Article.	1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.	1893-94.
Letters received - - -	2,366	3,166	2,664	4,393	4,679	6,280
Letters despatched - -	2,587	2,586	2,191	3,917	4,011	5,297
Packets received - -	93	111	142	45	230	157
Packets despatched - -	98	84	88	78	427	467
Newspapers received - -	4,071	6,845	6,042	8,505	6,749	8,131
Newspapers despatched -	574	590	468	756	276	240

FINANCE.

Revenue.

41. The amount of revenue paid into the Queensland Treasury by the Possession during the year was 5,866*l.* 14*s.* 5*d.* It is compared below with that of preceding year :—

Items.	1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.	1893-94.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Customs Dues	2,419	2,893	2,525	4,428	3,757	5,067
Gold Field Receipts	187	20	23	24	23	54
Fees	2	4	4	10	157	115
Fines	25	41	46	34	24	22
Licenses	2	11	21	136	106	317
Miscellaneous	42	44	53	149	535	291
Total £	2,679	3,015	2,673	4,783	4,604	5,866

Expenditure.

42. The full sum of 15,000*l.* available for the ordinary Administrative Services of the year was expended. The actual expenditure is classified and compared as follows with that of previous years :—

Head of Expenditure.	1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.	1893-94.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Civil List Salaries	2,633	3,300	3,290	3,300	3,300	3,300
Other Salaries	1,796	2,381	3,476	3,559	3,707	3,479
Vessels and Boats	2,747	2,564	2,938	2,993	1,600	1,308
Allowances	1,296	2,548	1,500	1,356	1,748	1,454
Buildings and Works	185	1,144	979	780	872	435
Agriculture	2	137	355	335	146	203
Mail Service	445	—	—	—	450	750
Miscellaneous	1,662	2,898	2,459	2,675	3,174	4,071
Total £	10,769	14,975	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000

S.S. "Merrie England."

43. During the year ending the 30th June last the "Merrie England" ran 15,305 miles, and consumed 711 tons of coal, making an average distance of 21·5 miles for each ton of coal.

The financial year of the steamer ends with the 31st March. The gross total expenditure for the twelve months was 7,643*l.* 11*s.* 2*d.* Of this, 1,312*l.* 13*s.* 3*d.* was met by refunds and earnings, leaving a net expenditure of 6,330*l.* 17*s.* 11*d.* The Imperial Government provided 4,000*l.* and the three contributing Colonies 1,000*l.* each for the steamer's maintenance.

The steam launch was condemned during the year, and was sold for 20*l.* The purchase of another one was delayed in the hope of being able to obtain a new launch advantageously ; and

the balance available for this purpose will, it is hoped, be carried forward with this object. It amounts to 544*l.* 1*s.* 7*d.*

PRISONS.

44. In the Western Division thirty-four prisoners were on the register during the year; of these nineteen remained at the end of June. Eight long-sentenced prisoners were sent west to assist in planting food and in working at the station. Some of these were men that would probably try to escape from other prisons, but who could not get home from Daru.

Sixteen prisoners were received into the Rigo gaol on sentences imposed under Native Regulations.

At the close of the year there were 100 prisoners in the two chief gaols of the Possession; all except one were at Samarai employed on swamp reclamation. In consideration of the unhealthy nature of the work, some addition to the ordinary ration is made while the men are at swamp work. It is gratifying to be able to record that no European was included in the above figures. The average on the sick list has been from about two to four per centum. There were two deaths, one an old man who was long ailing, and another by a fall from a cocoanut tree. No serious prison offences were committed. In addition to the ordinary warders there has been a prison guard of four or five of the armed constabulary.

The conduct of the prisoners has varied greatly, the old prisoners being, in many cases, very trustworthy men. They several times reported the intention of newer hands to make their escape. In one case they informed Mr. English that a new man was trying to cut his leg-irons with a tomahawk; but before reporting this, they took the law into their own hands and beat him and cast him into a ditch for bringing discredit on the prisoners. Two prisoners reported at the Mekeo Station the preparations being made by a third one to effect his escape. In doubtful cases the prisoner is sent to the prison furthest from his home.

MISSION WORK.

45. The Wesleyan Mission has made very marked progress during the year. The Gospel of Mark has been translated by the Rev. Mr. Fellowes into the Panaietti language, and is already in print There is a good school on that island. The teachers will find the natives of Misima very stiff-necked, but they have already made some progress there. The effect of difficulty and obstruction on the members of this mission is simply to call forth greater effort. This quality will be in requisition before Misima is Christianised. The Louisiade mission district will sooner or later find itself obliged to grow its own food, for it cannot always purchase it in that neighbourhood at any price.

At Dobu, also, extraordinary results have been achieved. Mrs. Bromilow and the two lay Sisters have taught with great industry and perseverance, and with remarkable success. They

have already a sewing class that could hold its own with that of any ordinary European village. They were strengthened by the addition of a trained nurse sister. This is a new effort in aboriginal missions in this part of the world—one that shows very clearly the progressive character of the mission and the thoroughness with which their work is prosecuted. There is good reason for believing that this new move will be crowned with success. Mr. Bromilow has acted so far in his own district on the principle of concentration, keeping his teachers so near that they are never beyond supervision. In this way less ground is occupied; but the work accomplished is much more searching, and a relatively much greater amount of teaching is done by each man, as it is incumbent on them to hold services in circles of villages round their stations.

The way has been cleared for opening a mission on the important and populous island of Kiriwina.

Circumstances did not admit of a personal inspection of the work of the Rev. Mr. Field, in the Engineer Group; but opportunities were not wanting of seeing its beneficial results on natives met with.

46. The Anglican mission on the north-east coast still retains its initiatory character. The Rev. Mr. King has had no missionary assistance, and under the circumstances has done all he could in his isolated position. This report shows elsewhere very clearly that there are great and populous districts in the large area that has been set apart as the field of this mission. The fine rivers traversing it from the great central range of mountains afford ready access to numerous communities of special promise and interest; but the resources of the mission seem to be totally inadequate for dealing with these. Mr. King has mastered the language of the people near him; he is well acquainted with the habits and peculiarities of the natives he comes into contact with; and by teaching in church and school, and by the example of his own life, he has greatly influenced those within his reach. His position is not an enviable one, at the head of a mission provided with an excellent headquarters, capable of accommodating the necessary staff, with an excellent vessel and good boats, with a unique mission field, and practically without a staff. Mr. King requires half-a-dozen European missionaries and at least two score of coloured teachers. The field can never be occupied without the latter, and they cannot be set to work until they are trained. It does not appear that this training has been commenced, or the men even obtained. Mr. King has scholars now, natives of the district, but not a few years must elapse before they can undertake teaching. He found in them the raw material of the savage, and it requires long and patient labour to convert those into Christian teachers. It is understood that efforts will be put forth shortly to strengthen this mission. Clearly something must be done ere long for the thousands of natives on the north-east coast. That more has not been done is clearly not the fault of Mr. King.

47. A considerable amount of new ground was occupied by the London Missionary Society's Station at Kwato. The Rev. Mr. Abel is encouraging some of the young men in his district to form industrial settlements for the cultivation of cotton and such like commodities, an attempt that deserves every encouragement the Government can give to it.

During the year the Rev. Mr. Pearse saw finished at his head-quarters the best and handsomest church in the Possession. Even the building itself, mainly the production of the natives of the village, makes an impression on the people. His school and Mrs. Pearse's class maintain their high standard. The uncommon excellence of the village choirs in this district is very remarkable. Some Papuan teachers are doing good work there.

The Rev. Mr. Lawes has in hand the formation of a large central college, situated some thirty miles east of Port Moresby. This has a sufficient area of planting land connected with it to supply the necessary labour for keeping the students in good health and in touch with field work and native food. It is intended that young men trained in the several districts shall have a two or three last years' study at this establishment. It will have the public advantage of all teachers of this mission being able to speak one common language, Motuan. This is appreciated after passing out of the Wesleyan district where some of the teachers only speak Samoan or Tongan and the dialect in use at their own stations. The Rev. Mr. Dauncey is completing a permanent residence at Delena, some sixty miles west of Port Moresby. This will provide in future for the indispensable supervision and personal inspection required over the work of the teachers in that district.

It will be seen from Mr. Hely's report that mission work has not made so much progress in the West as could be desired. Taking into account the isolated position of the teachers, the numerous lawless and boisterous population they have had to live among, the work effected as far west as Orokolo has been surprisingly good. To thoroughly supervise and inspect the whole of the immense district intrusted to the Rev. Mr. Chalmers is greatly beyond the power of any one man. Clearly this want of constant supervision must of necessity have in its train a certain amount of inefficiency. The result of laborious toil and of a long tale of years of exposure to many vicissitudes told at last on the health of Mr. Chalmers and made it impossible for him to pay so many visits to his teachers as would otherwise have been the case. In previous reports attention has been called to the semi-nomadic character of the tribes on the Fly River. This is a real difficulty, probably connected with the swampy nature of the country they occupy, and it is to be feared that it will seriously interfere with mission work. There is no dislike to teachers among the people, but they do not choose to break their old semi-migratory habits.

48. The Sacred Heart Mission received a considerable accession of strength during the year, and, as a consequence of this, several new stations are being opened. The Rev. Dr Ginocchi, the

resident head of the mission, combines industrial teaching with religious and secular education. In connection with each station there will be sufficient land to grow the food required and to plant some economic product. The remarkably successful work of the Rev. Father Vitali has steadily progressed in the large Inawi tribe, and has not been without effect on neighbouring communities. He has several new missionaries of much promise near him now.

49. It seems that the time will soon come when a special effort will have to be made, more especially by the London Missionary Society, for work further inland. There are numerous great centres of native population towards the spurs of the central chain of mountains that are totally unprovided with teachers. Some of them are known to the Government, but many are not. It is very doubtful that these can ever be taught until European missionaries are stationed there permanently to train up inland natives to teach their own people. It may be possible for the missionaries and teachers of the Wesleyan Mission to be all stationed on or near the sea, because their islands are not of large size; but it is quite impossible that the other three missions can work their districts without having European missionaries stationed inland. The Anglican Mission has not reached the stage of development that raises the question, but it is quite otherwise with the London Missionary Society and the Sacred Heart. The central college, to be conducted by Mr. Lawes, is happily placed for tapping the inland country at that particular place; but even that will not be able, in all probability, to reach the most inland tribes there. At present all the missionaries of the Society are on the coast, and, as a matter of fact, several more are required there; but, in addition to those, a large number will be needed inland before the numerous tribes there are provided with a permanent system of teaching. The Sacred Heart Mission is pushing steadily towards the interior, and will soon meet the first hill tribes. Their stations now extend as far inward as the Government station, and sites have been acquired in villages to the foot of the Mekeo Range, but many tribes are already known to the Government several days' journey beyond that.

So far the colony has been very fortunate in the high character of its European missionaries. In no country have the ministers of so many different missions worked with greater harmony. This spirit of mutual respect and of sympathy was happily initiated by the late Bishop Verjus and the Rev. Messrs. Lawes and Chalmers, and it has only become stronger with time and an increased number of workers.

SCIENTIFIC REPORTS.

50. These may be briefly noticed here. Mr. De Vis has had a heavy task in examining the large number of birds recently submitted to him. This work, and the arrangement and classification of the 6,500 objects in the ethnological collection of

British New Guinea now in the Queensland Museum, he has carried out with his usual enthusiasm. The official collection of birds is now one of great value. The brief enumeration of the ethnological collection will show clearly that a careful study of it would be interesting and instructive. A large and fine collection of insects has not yet been examined, as it is quite impossible for Mr. De Vis to give all his time to New Guinea collections.

51. The different reports furnished by Mr. Jack and Mr. Rands cover a great variety of geological specimens. The most interesting of these are the analyses of coal from the Purari River, and the gold-bearing sand from the Angabunga River. Both require much further investigation on the ground, but they are each of so much promise as to stimulate closer examination at the earliest possible date. Of special interest, too, is the study of the stone from the Murua quarry, so greatly prized for the stone axe of the native. Some fossils, the determination of which is of considerable interest, are still under examination.

52. Some botanical collections have again been submitted to the veteran scientist, Baron Sir Ferdinand von Mueller. He has found several noteworthy novelties.

53. Mr. C. Hedley has furnished a brief report on the land shells examined by him, in which he mentions several that are new and of special scientific value to the naturalist.

Meteorology

54. The only complete meteorological returns for a year that have reached me are supplied by Mr. Ernst Kennedy, of the Anglican Mission. These cover the year from the beginning of February, 1892, to the end of January, 1893, and are for Dogura, Bartle Bay, on the north-east coast. The rainfall was, in round numbers, 80 inches; rain fell on 189 days. The highest monthly maximum temperature was, for May, 92 degrees; the lowest is noted for August, at 67 degrees. At Taupota, on the north-east coast, 25 inches of rain fell from August to December, 1893, and about 17 inches fell during the same period at Wedau.

Returns from the Rev. Father Vitali, at Inawi, for the six months ending with June, 1894, give the following results for the half-year:—

	Rainfall.		Mean Temperature.
January - -	3·03 inches	January - -	72⅕ degrees.
February - -	5·04 „	February - -	72⅝ „
March - -	1·53 „	March - -	72¼ „
April - - -	1·80 „	April - -	73⅜ „
May - - -	5·21 „	May - - -	72¼ „
June - - -	1·57 „	June - - -	72¾ „
Rain fell on 77 days.			

GENERAL.

55. The usual annual visit of the Administrator to Brisbane for the despatch of business was dispensed with this year, as the time could ill be spared from local work.

56. The opening of a port of entry at Daru became necessary on several grounds. It possesses the only harbour known at present in the Possession west of Ravao.

Of the large number of boats engaged in the Torres Straits fishery some were always coming into contact with the west end of the Possession, landing for wood and water, &c. Then the labour law was so modified as to permit of western men being employed in boats located in British New Guinea and fishing in the Straits. This naturally increased the already frequent communication between the islands and the Possession. Native boats were also in the habit of coming to the Fly River to purchase sago for Murray Island, Darnley, &c. The great danger that this irregular kind of communication caused was that of the introduction of serious contagious diseases into the Possession. This danger can be at least reduced by making Daru a port of entry, and requiring all boats entering the Possession in the west to go by way of Daru, when quarantine can, if necessary, be imposed. A proposal was also under consideration for an alteration of the boundary between Queensland and British New Guinea, which will give increased importance to the west end of the Possession, and make the Daru port of more use than it is now. There are now three ports of entry in the Possession—at Daru, Port Moresby, and Samarai. It does not seem likely that under present conditions any more will be required.

The employment of western men in fishing vessels appears so far to be successful. They have a natural aptitude for work afloat. No case of unfair treatment has been reported, and they are well spoken of by their employers. There are a large number of foreigners participating in that fishery. It is not intended that they should be allowed, unless in exceptional cases, to engage natives of New Guinea, at all events not for the present. Some 130 men have been engaged before the Resident Magistrate, the great majority of them for boat-work. Their wages are generally 10*s.* a month.

57. The Armed Constabulary now contains only four men not Papuans. The foreigners are Solomon Islanders that joined the force during the year. Of those brought from Fiji, all save one—the sergeant for the Western Division—have left the constabulary, at or soon after the expiration of their term. Nearly all have married Papuan women, and all have decided to settle in the country. Each man has received, in lieu of a return passage to Fiji, a Crown grant for ten acres of land, free of all expense. Besides the western sergeant, two others are in Government employ. There is no more important educational establishment in the Possession than that of the constabulary. A considerable

number of young men are passed through it, and each of them leaves with broader views and a greatly improved moral status—looked at from the European point of view. It has, however, been very unfortunate that the Commandant has been so frequently changed, a circumstance that has greatly affected training and discipline. But, in spite of that, the constabulary has done a great amount of good as a teaching institution. It is the most effective means in operation for the distribution of a common tongue over a wide area of country. The languages of the constabulary are principally English and Motuan. The latter tongue is more easily acquired than the former, and it has been carried by retired constables to numerous places where it had never before been heard of. Fortunately the same language will be also broadly diffused from Mr. Lawes' Central College. The rate at which men are passed through the force is, however, undesirably great, entailing much work on the officers of the force by the never-ending work of training the new men. The love of the Papuan for his own home is so intense that he is drawn towards it by irresistible attraction. Men that can resist that feeling are, on account of their superior knowledge, character, and experience, offered higher wages by traders and others. The fixed rate of pay in the force is 10*s.* a month for the first year, and 1*l.* a month afterwards.

58. The important system of village constables has been steadily and carefully developed. It is, of course, only in its infancy yet, for it must eventually form a network over the entire colony. The importance of this establishment may be seen at once from the short table given below, prepared by Mr. Hely for his own district; it gives also the distribution of teachers and chiefs in the same place:—

Village.	Chiefs.	Police.	Teachers.
Mawatta	1 (n. m.)	2	1
Turi Turi	1 ,,	2	—
Masingara	1 (chief)	2	—
Kunini	—	—	1 (worked by Turi Turi police).
Gasira	1 ,,	2	—
Parama	2 ,,	2	1
Iasa	4 ,,	4	—
Saguane	—	—	1 (no fixed population).
Ipisia	—	—	1 ,,
Wiorubi	1	2	—
Sumai	2	2	1
Auti	1	2	—
	14	20	6

The number of village constables in the Central District already amounts to 50 men. The system has not been so successfully worked in the East and South Divisions, but even there they have been very useful.

The Reverend Mr. Bromilow speaks well of the Dobu police; and the five men of the village force in the Louisiades are all very serviceable.

The number of village constables at present on the roll is about four score. They receive each, as a rule, 1*l.* a year and two suits of uniform that cost about 6*s.* each. Of course they require close and constant watching from magistrates and Government Agents. Not a few of them are men that have been in the constabulary or in prison, and the latter are quite as trustworthy as the former. The village constable and the teacher are complementary of each other; but the village police force promises to grow the faster.

59. Speaking generally, there was very satisfactory progress made during the year among the majority of coast tribes. A considerable number of inland tribes were also brought under influence, and in some cases under control. But the great trouble of the period is now the descent of unknown, or of little known, hill tribes on the coast people. This is a great difficulty, and one that, unfortunately, will not cease for some years. As some of these tribes are heard of for the first time only after one of these incursions, it is, of course, impossible to guard against their descent. The only way to deal with this is to visit the inland tribes, but that takes much time. As it is impossible to walk across the hilly country from end to end—that is from east to west—the plan is being acted upon of sending parties inland from the coast at selected points. In this way Mr. Guise and Mr. Armit went inland to Maneáo from the north-east coast; Mr. Armit went to the highlands of Goodenough Island, and Mr. Armit also went inland from Mairu. Last year Mr. Lawes and Mr. English went inland to Tupelam, &c., in the Central District; and Mr. Kowald went right into the heart of the Mekeo Range. As many expeditions of this kind as possible must be undertaken during the next two or three years, for the settled tribes will never have peace and rest in certain districts until the hillmen behind them are brought more or less under control. It is much to be regretted that the funds at disposal cannot be manipulated to increase the staff that might be made available for this work; but it does not appear possible to employ more officers on the means at present at command.

60. The consent of the three contributing Colonies will be asked to expend during the next three or four years the unemployed balance of 1,300*l.* not used during the first year of the Administration. That sum, if spread over the term of the ten years still unexpired, would permit of the employment during that period of two additional Government Agents, one of whom is urgently required for Kiriwina and the D'Entrecasteaux Groups.

61. Sketch maps* representing a large amount of labour will be found appended. In this much valuable aid was rendered by

* Not printed.

the Commander of the "Merrie England," Mr. M. A. Jones. Without the enthusiastic assistance of Mr. McDowall, Surveyor-General of Queensland, these could not have appeared in this Report.

62. As in previous years, every possible assistance was rendered to the Possession by the Government of Queensland, a circumstance that much facilitates and strengthens the work of administration.

I have, &c.

WM. MACGREGOR.

His Excellency
Sir Henry Wylie Norman, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., C.I.E., &c.,
Governor of Queensland.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 119.

RODRIGUES.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1893.

(For Report for 1892, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 98.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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1895.

[C.—7629.-2.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
83	Barbados	1892
84	St. Vincent	,,
85	Hong Kong	,,
86	St. Lucia	,,
87	Falkland Islands	,,
88	Gold Coast	,,
89	Basutoland	1892–93
90	Ceylon	1892
91	Zululand	,,
92	Mauritius	,,
93	Labuan	,,
94	British Honduras	,,
95	Lagos	,,
96	Sierra Leone	,,
97	Fiji	,,
98	Rodrigues	,,
99	St. Helena	,,
100	British Bechuanaland	1892–93
101	British Guiana	,,
102	Newfoundland	1892
103	Jamaica	1892–93
104	Victoria	1892
105	Bermuda	1893
106	Gambia	,,
107	Hong Kong	,,
108	St. Vincent	,,
109	Gibraltar	,,
110	Bahamas	,,
111	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
112	Leeward Islands	,,
113	Barbados	,,
114	Malta	,,
115	Zululand	,,
116	British Honduras	,,
117	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
118	Falkland Islands	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 119.

RODRIGUES.

(For Report for 1892, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 98.)

The MAGISTRATE, RODRIGUES, to the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Rodrigues Magistracy,
April 17, 1894.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit, herewith, the Annual Report on the Rodrigues Blue Book for the year 1893.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. H. COLIN,
Magistrate.

The Honourable the Colonial Secretary.

REPORT on the RODRIGUES BLUE BOOK for the Year 1893.

TAXATION.

During the year 1893 no change was made in the taxation of this Dependency.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

	Rs.
The revenue of 1893 (exclusive of Customs and sums collected in Mauritius) amounted to -	5131.06
And the revenue of 1892 to - - -	7002.10
Showing a decrease of - - -	Rs.1871.04

The principal heads of revenue were land-rent, pasturage fees, dog tax, licenses, forest produce, fines and sales of crown land.

RODRIGUES. 1893.

	Rs.
The expenditure of 1893 under estimates and special votes (not including payments made in Mauritius) and matters of account amounted to - - - -	22,600.74
And the expenditure of 1892 to - -	25,541.62
Showing a decrease of - - -	2,940.88

The ratio of the revenue to the population in 1893 was Rs. 2.19¾ per head, and that of the expenditure Rs. 9.78 and a fraction per head.

The difference in the expenditure is partly due to the erection of new buildings in 1892.

The difference in the revenue is partly due to the fact that in December 1892, some person lent money to the inhabitants to pay the taxes due by them and he was refunded of his advances in 1893, and partly to the drought that prevailed in 1893.

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS.

	Rs.
Exclusive of specie the value of the exports during the year 1893 was - - -	94,972.30
and during 1892 - - - -	71,366.38
showing an increase of - - -	Rs. 23,605.92

The value of the imports during the year 1892 amounted to - - - - -	118,164.89
and during the year 1893 to - - -	107,002.25
showing a decrease of - - - -	Rs. 11,162.64

The ratio of exports per head was in 1893 Rs. 40.90 and in 1892, Rs. 32.29.

The ratio of imports per head was in 1892, Rs. 52.78 and in 1893, Rs. 45.88.

SHIPPING.

The number of ships which arrived at Rodrigues was 18 in 1892 and 21 in 1893.

The subsidy for postal communication during those two years between Rodrigues and Mauritius was paid in Mauritius.

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS.

The population in 1892 was 2,210 and on the 31st of December 1893 the number of inhabitants was 2,332.

The number of declarations of births in 1893 was - 128

The number of deaths was - - - 30

The number of arrivals was - - - 142

The number of departures was - - - 128

The declarations of births show a decrease of two when compared to those made in 1892, the deaths an increase of seven.

There were two still-births in 1892 and one in 1893.

In 1892 20 marriages were celebrated and 19 in 1893.

There was in 1892 one marriage in "articulo mortis" and none in 1893.

EDUCATION

There are only two schools at Rodrigues the expenses of which are paid by Government, one at Port Mathurin and the other at St. Gabriel.

	1892.	1893.
PORT MATHURIN SCHOOLS.		
Average number of pupils on roll - -	73	83
Average number of attendances - -	57	61
ST. GABRIEL SCHOOL.		
Average number of pupils on roll - -	147	89
Average number of attendances - -	103	50

Books, &c., &c., (sent from Mauritius for both schools) were sold to the pupil to the amount of Rs.83.90 in 1892 and Rs. 90.46 in 1893.

The cost of both schools amounted to Rs. 3,637.92 in 1892, and Rs. 3501.53 including Rs. 497.50 for enlargement of Gabriel School in 1893.

The annual cost to Government for each pupil inscribed in 1893 was Rs. 20.35.

JUDICIAL.

The most common charges were for larceny, possession of stolen property, assault, trespass, disturbance, wounds and blows, breach of forest laws, abusive language and contraventions.

	1892.	1893.
CRIMINAL SIDE.		
Number of informations filed including applications for search-warrants - - -	57	68
Number of adjudications - - -	44	61
Number of cases given up - - -	13	7
Number of persons convicted - - -	41	50
Number of persons acquitted - -	11	25
CIVIL SIDE.		
Number of cases entered - - -	45	71
STIPENDIARY SIDE.		
Number of cases - - - -	16	12
Number of engagements - - -	0	3
Number of discharges - - -	1	0
The total number of cases of all jurisdictions was - - - - - -	118	151
Showing an increase of 33 cases in 1893 -	—	—

The Court revenue was Rs. 416.29, and the expenditure Rs. 123.14.

GAOLS.

The only prison is at Port Mathurin and can contain 20 prisoners. There is no reformatory or place of detention for juvenile offenders, and no proper accommodation for female prisoners.

Seventeen (17) persons were committed to gaol in 1893 and twelve (12) in 1892.

MEDICAL.

The hospital is no longer at Port Mathurin, having been removed to Mont Lubin.

The number of patients attended to in the public hospital was 6 in 1892 and 47 in 1893.

In 1892 medical advice at the dispensary both at Mont Lubin and Port Mathurin was given to 2,341 patients and in 1893 to 2,318.

In 1892 one (1) death occurred at the hospital and three (3) in 1893.

The prevailing diseases were bronchitis, broncho-pneumonia, pneumonia, inflammation of the throat, stomatitis, throat, liver complaints, enteritis, diarrhœa and dysentery, rheumatism, neuralgia, worms, fever, abscesses, wounds and eczema, diseases of the eyes and ears, and diseases common to women.

In 1892 73 children were vaccinated and 83 in 1893.

The receipts from in-patients amounted to Rs. 10.13 in 1893, and nothing in 1892.

The total expenditure for the Medical Department of this Dependency amounted to Rs. 2,338.11 in 1892 and to Rs. 2,714.14 in 1893.

Poor Law.

The number of paupers provided for in 1892 amounted to 19 viz.: 15 males and 4 females, and in 1893 to 21, viz.: 16 males and 5 females.

Each pauper receives at the beginning of the month rice calculated at the rate of 500 grammes per diem, and at the end of the year 1 rupee and a suit of clothes. The rice and clothes were sent from Mauritius.

Two bags of rice were distributed gratis to the poor.

Ecclesiastical.

There are two Roman Catholic churches at Rodrigues, one of them is supported by Government (St. Gabriel Church). The expenditure for the Roman Catholic church was the same in 1893 as in 1892, viz.: Rs. 1,999.92, the salary of the priest.

There is no catechist nor minister of the Church of England.

Legislation.

No special laws were enacted for this Dependency in 1893.

Registration.

There were 54 documents registered in 1892 and 52 in 1893. The revenue derived thereby was Rs.27.00 in 1892 and Rs.26 in 1893.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

The Chief Officer of Police took daily observations which have been transmitted to the Director of the Royal Alfred Observatory in Mauritius.

	N. Ther. F.	N. Bar. In.
1. Highest temp. (indoors) 1.1.93, 3 p.m.	90·06	30·190
2. Lowest temp. (indoors) 17.7.93, 9 a.m.	68·07	30·285

3. The heaviest rainfall in 24 hours was on the 25.1.93, and gave 4 inches and 16 lines.

The month of January was the month in which there were the heaviest rainfalls; viz., 10¼ in.

No hurricane visited the island in 1893.

Rodrigues suffered from a very severe drought which lasted from September to the 20th of December, when there began to be some rain.

The Chief Officer of Police received Rs.183 in 1892 and Rs.182.50 in 1893 for taking these observations.

FOREST AND CROWN LANDS.

	1892.	1893.
The land rented by cultivators at Rs.2 per acre amounted to - - - - among which are included 4 acres leased at R.1 per acre, and 2 acres let to Mr. L. A. Viger for a "saline" at a nominal rent of R. 0.25.	543 -	545
The fishing posts numbered - -	33	26
	Rs.	Rs.
and fetched - - - -	160	115
The islands were let for - - -	64.02	30
The town lots obtained - - - including in 1893 the arrears of 1891 and 1892, amounting to Rs. 10.	30	45
The number of Lessees was - - -	291	345
The Revenue actually received under the heading of land rent, including islands, town lots, fishing posts, and other land leased by Government, including the arrears for	Rs.	Rs.
1891 and 1892 did amount to - - -	1,535.31	1,078.99
The pasturage dues (not including the sums paid by Mr. J. Martin in Mauritius) but including Rs.150 for arrears of 1892 amounted to - - - - - - -	1,381.15	458.15
The amount derived from Forest produce amounted to - - - - -	240.00	180.63

GENERAL REMARKS.

The crop of beans, the main produce of the island, has been very bad: about three-fifths of last year's crop which was not good. The Dependency has besides greatly suffered from a very severe drought.

The consequence is that taxes have been only partly paid and this with the greatest difficulty.

The new hospital at Mont Lubin has been completed according to the contract passed with my predecessor.

Mr. Viger has prepared some salt which is very fine.

Tobacco is getting quite a favourite, and as it grows here very well and has a very fine flavour, though badly prepared, I venture to foretell that this plant shall soon be a source of riches to this island.

Many of the buildings still want repairs but workmen here are not always obtainable.

The island was favoured with a visit of his Excellency the Governor of Mauritius and the inhabitants were highly pleased and honoured thereby.

The Government Engineer arrived in Rodrigues in October and marked out the site of the new road. He has also indicated the spot where the water of Port Mathurin River is to be dammed.

The Government Surveyor is still in Rodrigues surveying the numerous lots of Crown land which the inhabitants wish to purchase. He has also found out that in dry weather the river supplies Port Mathurin with over 52,000 litres of water and in October, when it had not been raining for nearly one month, it yielded over 28,000 litres in 24 hours.

Water supply in Port Mathurin would prove a boon to the inhabitants.

YVES JOLLIVET,
Acting Magistrate of Rodrigues.

March 24, 1894.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 125.

ST. HELENA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1893.

(For Report for 1892, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 99.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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No.	Colony.	Year.
90	Ceylon	1892
91	Zululand	,,
92	Mauritius	,,
93	Labuan	,,
94	British Honduras	,,
95	Lagos	,,
96	Sierra Leone	,,
97	Fiji	,,
98	Rodrigues	,,
99	St. Helena	,,
100	British Bechuanaland	1892–93
101	British Guiana	,,
102	Newfoundland	1892
103	Jamaica	1892–93
104	Victoria	1892
105	Bermuda	1893
106	Gambia	,,
107	Hong Kong	,,
108	St. Vincent	,,
109	Gibraltar	,,
110	Bahamas	,,
111	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
112	Leeward Islands	,,
113	Barbados	,,
114	Malta	,,
115	Zululand	,,
116	British Honduras	,,
117	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
118	Falkland Islands	,,
119	Rodrigues	,,
120	Mauritius	,,
121	Straits Settlements	,,
122	Labuan	1893
123	Basutoland	,,
124	St. Lucia	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 125.

ST. HELENA.

[For Report for 1892, *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 99.]

Governor Grey Wilson to the Marquess of Ripon.

The Castle, St. Helena,
My Lord, September 20, 1894.

I have the honour to transmit the Blue Book of this Island for the year 1893.

2. It is with feelings of no little pleasure that I invite your Lordship's attention to the very substantial financial improvement of the year, an improvement which, even if (as there is much reason to fear) it is only evanescent, yet, following upon the very much smaller one of 1892, is not without encouragement, and has given me substantial relief from the more pressing anxieties and perplexities which have continuously diminished the efforts that should have been directed to the solution of many pressing social and economic questions. It is a hopeful feature of the present time that there are men of position who are eager to discover means to help the Island by the introduction of some sound industry. I have always strongly discouraged the belief that the Government would originate and finance any undertaking with that object; but at the same time I have endeavoured to stimulate enterprize with the assurance that I would do everything in my power to secure the co-operation of the Government in any well digested scheme adequately supported by a fair proportion of the inhabitants.

Revenue and Expenditure.

3. The Revenue was 8,546*l.* (855*l.* more than in 1892, and 102*l.* less than the average of the past five years) and the expenditure 7,637*l.* (1,201*l.* less than the average of the last five years). After providing for the expenditure of the year, there remained, therefore, the substantial surplus of 909*l.*, which has more than extinguished the deficits of previous years.

St. Helena. 1893.

4. To elucidate the cause of this improvement is by no means easy. It is universally contended that trade has not improved; the number of ships calling has continued to decline; no industry has been started; and the visits paid by men of war have been few and of short duration. The Supervisor of Customs accounts for the improvement in the revenue from Customs (the only appreciable one) by greatly increased importations from America, due to the competition of rival schooners bringing produce on speculation, and to the over importation of British goods by local merchants. Both these causes will, in his opinion, seriously affect the Customs revenue in 1894, the market being glutted in respect of several staple imports; but, as will be seen under the head of Imports and Exports, a very great part of the increased Customs revenue is derived from spirits and wines, and, as these are only cleared from bond as required, the importations of 1893 cannot affect the revenue of 1894 under those heads.

5. I confess that I could wish to offer to your Lordship some explanation more satisfying to my mind than is that of the Supervisor of Customs, which, while doubtless accounting in a measure for the result, leaves the main cause of the increase involved in great obscurity. I cannot avoid reaching the conclusion that there has been a real improvement in the condition of the masses, resulting from the emigration of the last few years, which was unusually heavy in 1893. The result of this has been the hardening of wages and the transference, at least for the time being, of a considerable number of persons from the non-wage earning, and consequently non-revenue-producing, class, to that of contributors to the revenue by means of the remittances made by absentees to their families on the Island.

6. The bulk of the revenue is derived from "Customs," which includes not only the specific and only genuine Customs duties upon wine, spirits, and tobacco, but also the receipts from the sale of water and from a wharfage charge upon all goods for the use of the Government crane and wharf.

7. The increase in the Customs was nearly 700*l.* (4,352*l.* to 5,046*l.*), and to this must be added an increase of 60*l.* under Licences and Taxes and a substantial increase of 50*l.* on the then highest recorded Post Office revenue of 1892 (912*l.* to 962*l.*)

Taxation.

8. No fiscal alterations having taken place, the taxation per head of population, inclusive of Poor and other rates, rose from 1*l.* 3*s.* 0*d.* in 1891 to 1*l.* 5*s.* 7*d.* in 1892, and 1*l.* 10*s.* 0*d.* in 1893. The nominal rise of 1892 was due to the increase of the garrison in that year, and to the presence of a greater number of war vessels; but neither of these causes will suffice to account for the rise in

1893, and I think it must, in conjunction with the improved revenue from licences, be taken to indicate in a measure greater prosperity.

Local Bodies.

9. As the ratepayers did not exercise their power of electing a Health Board, I appointed instead, as I am empowered to do, a Sanitary Inspector to carry out all the duties, and exercise all the powers, of such Board.

Debt.

10. The loan of 5,158*l.*, granted by the Imperial Parliament to the Island in 1872, remains unchanged.

Assets and Liabilities.

11. Excluding that debt, the assets of the Colony at the close of the year were 11,600*l.*, and the liabilities, 11,268*l.*, showing a favourable balance of 332*l.*, in place of the deficit of 604*l.* at the end of 1892.

Military.

12. The garrison consisted of 197 officers and men, as against 210 in the previous year.

Legislation.

13. Four Ordinances were passed during the year. Numbers 2 and 4 are Supply Ordinances. Number 1, "An Ordinance to Simplify Conveyancing and Titles to Land," affords simple, inexpensive, and easily understood, procedure for the sale, purchase, and mortgage of real estate, the obtaining of sound titles in substitution for valueless or lost ones, and the registration of the very short deeds prescribed. No. 3, "An Ordinance to provide greater Security against fire," provides for the payment, by a rate, of any loss or damage sustained by the Imperial Government of Troops in combating a fire. As the Colony does not possess a fire engine, the arrangement is a very satisfactory one for the inhabitants, who obtain the services of the Imperial Troops, engines, and appliances, for a purely nominal payment.

Civil Establishment.

14. The office of Harbour Master, which had been vacant during 1892, was filled by the appointment of Commander W. Hewetson, R.N. (who landed on the 15th April) who is also Naval Agent

for the Admiralty and Treasurer of the Island. Miss Rose Aimée Blennerhassett was appointed as Lady Nurse Superintendent of the Colonial Hospital, and arrived in the Colony on the 19th December.

Population.

15. The population at the close of the year was 3,814, approximately, a decrease of about 300.

Education.

16. There are nine elementary schools, four of which give free education, while five charge a fee of one penny a week. The four free education schools, with four teachers, have only 194 scholars upon the rolls; while the five schools charging a fee of one penny a week, with seven teachers, have 463 scholars upon the rolls, or a total of 657 day scholars. In previous years, the rolls of the night schools, Sunday schools, and the Military adult school, have been counted in the general total; and, if this be done, there is a slight increase as compared with 1892 (829 to 838).

17. Three fee-paying and one free school are maintained by the Government; three free schools are supported from the proceeds of a fund provided by the late Miss Rebecca Hussey; and only two schools, belonging to the Benevolent Society, are in any way assisted by local contributors. The total amount of the subscriptions to these two last in 1893 was only 15*l.* 4*s.* 0*d.* Fortunately, they possess invested funds and property, the result of bygone liberality, to the value of 1,945*l.*; but their maintenance is a matter of serious anxiety to the committee of management. I trust it may not become necessary to close either of these schools, as the committee fear.

Imports and Exports.

18. The value of the Imports was 39,193*l.*, nearly 9,000*l.* more than in the previous year, and larger than in any year since 1886; but in this total is included 2,000*l.* in specie imported by the Imperial Government. The imports would seem to justify the expectation of an even greater increase in the customs revenue than took place.

19. The value of the exports, including 4,055*l.* in specie, was 4,976*l.* In addition to this, whalebone and oil to the value of 32,256*l.* were transhipped in the harbour.

20. The importation of beer showed an extraordinary increase. The figures are:—

—	In Hogsheads.	Dozen Quart Bottles.
1891 - - -	164	212
1892 - - -	301	273
1893 - - -	366	1,603

Duty-paid wine and spirits show an almost equally surprising increase. The figures are :—

—	Gallons, Spirits.	Gallons, Wine.
1891 - - -	1,489	6,088
1892 - - -	1,688	6,387
1893 - - -	2,068	7,318

Shipping.

21. Five hundred and sixteen vessels were sighted during the year, of which 199 (including 11 British and three foreign men-of-war) called, and 193 traded with licensed boatmen.

The number of vessels calling and trading (392) was 20 less than in 1892: the number of calling vessels declined 24, and the number of vessels trading rose 4.

Hospital.

22. The health of the Island was not so satisfactory as during the last few years. The number of deaths was 72, as compared with 56 in 1892, equal to 18 per 1,000; or, excluding soldiers and invalid sailors landed for treatment, 16·2 per 1,000.

There was a very unusual number of deaths of persons under the age of ten (31 in 1893, and only eight in 1892). This very great increase was due to teething, croup, and diphtheria, and apart from these cases the health of the Island was remarkably good.

The total number of cases treated in the Hospital was 135, and the daily average 6·59; 37 of the patients treated during the year were sailors.

METEOROLOGY.

Rainfall.

23. The year 1893, in comparison with the previous year, may be regarded as a fairly wet one.

ST. HELENA. 1893.

A comparison of the registers kept at St. Matthew's Vicarage (central), Longwood (east), and Woodlands (west), shows that the greatest amount of rain fell at the first station.

The record stands as follow:—

St. Matthew's Vicarage, 1,900 feet above the sea, 40·344 inches.

Longwood, 1,780 feet above the sea, 28·07 inches.

Woodlands, 2,050 feet above the sea, 31·77 inches.

It is singular to note that, although the first two stations are situated only a mile distant from each other, 12¼ inches of rain were recorded at the former in excess of the latter station.

The greatest daily record was 2·38 inches at Woodlands on the 27th of April, and then the true rainfall was not registered, as the bottle, which was not, unfortunately, enclosed in the usual can, ran over.

Barometer.

24. The barometric pressure shows a minimum in the beginning of January, and a maximum towards the middle of July, and between those periods the instrument remained almost quiescent.

Temperature.

25. The temperature in the country ranged from 56·2° in September to 64·6° in March, and in the town from 69° to 77° during the same period, showing, on the average, a difference of only 8° between the hottest and coldest months.

The absolute maximum temperature recorded was 87° in May at Woodlands, and the absolute minimum 49° in the months of August and September at the same station.

Wind.

26. The two most windy months in the year were August and September, during which the greatest daily force of 40 miles an hour, corresponding to a pressure of 8·0 lbs. on the square foot, was registered. The force of 8 miles an hour, or a pressure of 5 ounces on the square foot was the least recorded, the average number of calm days being 1·4 per cent

Post Office.

27. The gross revenue from the Post Office was 962*l.*, the largest ever recorded. The amount received from non-resident stamp dealers fell from 199*l.* to 163*l.*

13,434 letters were sent from here to the United Kingdom, and 7,026 to other places.

975 parcels were received and 233 despatched, an increase of nearly 20 per cent.

The Money Order business amounted to 4,080*l.*

Conclusion.

28. At the close of the year, Mr. R. A. Sterndale called attention in England to the assistance which might be afforded to the Island by the development of the fisheries and the encouragement of bee-keeping, and I trust that this year some substantial progress may be made with one or both of these industries. Nothing, however, should be attempted until the subject has been thoroughly and exhaustively digested, and the necessary capital is available. Failure would supply the pessimists with further ground for maintaining that relief is impossible, and that their apathy and hopelessness are the effect, and in no measure the cause, of the many failures that darken our past.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. GREY WILSON,
Governor.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 124.

ST. LUCIA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1893.

(For Report for 1892 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 86.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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1895.

[C.—7629.–7.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
89	Basutoland	1892–93
90	Ceylon	1892
91	Zululand	,,
92	Mauritius	,,
93	Labuan	,,
94	British Honduras	,,
95	Lagos	,,
96	Sierra Leone	,,
97	Fiji	,,
98	Rodrigues	,,
99	St. Helena	,,
100	British Bechuanaland	1892–93
101	British Guiana	,,
102	Newfoundland	1892
103	Jamaica	1892–93
104	Victoria	1892
105	Bermuda	1893
106	Gambia	,,
107	Hong Kong	,,
108	St. Vincent	,,
109	Gibraltar	,,
110	Bahamas	,,
111	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
112	Leeward Islands	,,
113	Barbados	,,
114	Malta	,,
115	Zululand	,,
116	British Honduras	,,
117	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
118	Falkland Islands	,,
119	Rodrigues	,,
120	Mauritius	,,
121	Straits Settlements	,,
122	Labuan	,,
123	Basutoland	1893–4

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 124.

ST. LUCIA.

[For Report for 1892 *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 86.]

Sir Charles Bruce to the Marquess of Ripon.

My Lord, Grenada, September 6, 1894.

I have the honour to transmit a copy of the St. Lucia Blue Book for the year 1893, together with the Report of the Administrator, Surgeon Lieutenant-Colonel Gouldsbury, C.M.G.

I have, &c.

(Signed) Chas. Bruce.

Report on the Blue Book for 1893.

Taxes, Duties, and Fees.

With the exception of a reduction amounting to one-half in the fee payable by vessels for services rendered by the harbour master between the hours of seven o'clock p.m. and six a.m., no alteration was made in the rate or incidence of any tax, duty, or fee during the year.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the year under review amounted to 51,598*l.* and 49,271*l.* respectively, the revenue exceeding the expenditure by 2,327*l.* This contrasts very favourably with the financial results of the preceding year, which showed an excess of expenditure over revenue of no less a sum than 6,637*l.*

The estimated revenue for 1893 was 49,731*l.*, and the estimated expenditure 49,437*l.*

The actual revenue exceeded the estimated revenue by 1,867*l.*, whereas the actual expenditure was less than the estimated expenditure by 166*l.*

The revenue for 1893 exceeded that for the preceding year by 3,301*l.*, while the expenditure fell short of that for 1892 by 5,663*l.*

The principal heads of revenue under which there was a considerable increase in 1892, as compared with the previous year, are shown in the subjoined table.

Heads of Revenue.	Increase in 1893.
	£
Customs	3,147
Port, Harbour, and Wharf Dues	992
Licences, Excise, &c.	1,222
Miscellaneous	454

The following table shows the principal heads of expenditure under which there was a considerable increase or decrease in 1893 as compared with the preceding year :—

Heads of Expenditure.	Increase in 1893.	Decrease in 1893.
	£	£
Charges on account of Public Debt	893	—
Port and Marine Department	—	424
Prisons	281	—
Medical	—	225
Miscellaneous	—	1,754
Public Works Department	—	516
Public Works Recurrent	—	2,342
Public Works Extraordinary	—	1,747

The revenue and expenditure for 1893 compare as follows with the average yearly revenue and expenditure for the preceding five years, 1888–92 :—

	1893.	Average for Five Years 1888–92.	Increase in 1893 over Average for preceding Five Years.
	£	£	£
Revenue	51,598	47,523	4,075
Expenditure	49,271	48,706	565

It will be seen that in 1893 there was a considerable increase in the revenue as compared with the average yearly revenue for the previous five years, and that, although there was also, in relation to a similar comparison, an increase in the expenditure in 1893, the increase was much smaller than that which occurred in the case of the revenue.

Assets and Liabilities.

The following is a statement of the assets and liabilities of the Colony on the 31st December 1893:—

Assets.	£	Liabilities.	£
Cash in hand	147	Savings Bank Deposit Account	9,812
Colonial Bank Current Account	5,321	Castries Town Board	552
„ Deposit Account	4,500	Towns and Villages Funds	1,358
Investments on account of Savings Bank	5,000	Police and Revenue Officers' Reward Fund	1,843
Investments on account of Police and Revenue Officers' Reward Fund	1,504	Imperial Post Office Fund	103
Miscellaneous Advances	4,694	Post Office Money Order Account	321
Crown Agents' Current Account	243	Immigration Fund	714
London and Westminster Bank	488	Grenada Intercolonial Account	335
Bank of England	1,686	Prison Manufacturing Account	55
	£23,583	Public Works Loan Works Account	4,914
Stores, Surplus Account	1,639	Workyard Account	67
		The Jetties Fund	91
		Lands Sales Fund	433
			£20,598
		Sinking Funds	2,174
			£22,772
		Surplus and Deficit Account	2,450
	£25,222		£25,222

Public Debt.

The public debt of the Colony at the end of the year 1893 amounted to 159,202*l.*, and was made up as shown in the subjoined statement:—

Debts.	Amount due at end of Year 1893.	Amount of original Debt.	Source from which Interest and Sinking Fund are paid.
	£	£	
St. Lucia Central Factory Loans	29,900	40,000	General Revenue.
Immigration Loans	21,500	23,000	Immigration Fund.
Harbour of Castries Improvement Loans	83,300	84,000	General Revenue.
Public Works Loans	24,502	24,502	Do.
	£159,202	£171,502	

The sum of 1,700*l.* was paid off during the year by the redemption of drawn debentures. The public debt at the close of the year was equal to somewhat over three times the amount of the revenue for the year, and represented an indebtedness amounting to 3*l.* 12*s.* 0½*d.* per head of the population.

Savings Bank.

The deposits in the Savings Bank during the year 1893 amounted to 7,995*l.*, being 1,040*l.* in excess of deposits for the previous year.

The number of depositors at the close of the year was 1,128, being an increase of 223 over the number of depositors at the end of 1892.

The average sum per depositor was 7*l.* 1*s.* 9*d.*

The withdrawals amounted to 5,887*l.*, and the total amount to the credit of depositors at the close of 1893 was 9,812*l.*

Municipalities and other Public Bodies.

The town of Castries is governed by an elective Town Board consisting of eight members. All the other towns and the villages in the Colony are under the supervision and management of Town Wardens, subject to, and acting under, the directions and control of the Governor in Council.

The total revenue of the towns and villages for the year 1893 amounted to 4,432*l.*, and the expenditure to 4,093*l.*

The revenue of the towns and villages is derived chiefly from house-tax, the rates being levied upon the assessed annual rental, or value for rental, of the property.

The rate varies from 5 per cent. in some of the villages to 8 per cent. in others, and in the towns of Castries, Soufriere, and Vieuxfort.

Military.

The only expenditure of the Colony in respect of the troops was 1,794*l.* paid as an allowance in lieu of duty-free goods.

The Imperial expenditure during the year for military purposes amounted to 35,223*l.*

Public Works.

The works carried out by the Public Works Department during the year comprised works of new construction and works of maintenance and repair.

The only works of new construction executed during the year were the building of a Treasury strong and fire-proof room, and the construction of a road leading from the Morne road to the site of the proposed new Government House.

Under the head of maintenance and repairs the following is an enumeration of the principal works executed in 1893 :—

General repairs of Public Buildings; upkeep and repair of roads and bridges, and dredging in Castries Harbour.

In consequence of the falling off in the revenue of 1892 and the deficit at the close of that year, strict economies had to be observed in the expenditure of 1893, and no public work of importance was undertaken. The amount spent on the repair and upkeep of roads was only just sufficient to keep them passable.

The amount expended on Public Works during the year was 4,132*l.*, of which the sum of 3,785*l.* was defrayed out of general revenue, 140*l.* out of loans, and 207*l.* out of Town and Village Funds.

Legislation.

Fifteen Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council during the year, none of which were disallowed by Her Majesty.

Of the Ordinances passed during the year only one is of more than local interest, viz., "The Bills of Exchange Ordinance, 1893." This Ordinance amends the law relating to Bills of Exchange, Cheques, and Promissory Notes, by bringing it into line with the Imperial law, and so securing uniformity of law on the subject with the United Kingdom, and with the Colonies which have adopted a similar course.

Civil Establishment.

His Excellency Sir Walter Hely-Hutchinson, having been appointed Governor of Natal and Zululand, left for England on the 29th of June, and I assumed the administration of the General Government from the 30th June and continued to administer it until the arrival of Sir Charles Bruce on the 24th October.

Mr. P. J. K. Ferguson, Attorney-General, administered the Government of St. Lucia during my absence at Grenada from the 1st to the 8th July, to which Colony I had proceeded to be sworn in as Administrator-in-Chief of the Windward Islands.

Dr. C. Dennehy, Colonial Surgeon, was absent on leave for six weeks, during which time Dr. O. Galgey acted as Colonial Surgeon.

Legislative Council.

Mr. Battam left the Colony on three months leave of absence in June.

Mr. Du Boulay was absent from the Colony from the 6th July to the 5th October.

Dr. C. Dennehy, Colonial Surgeon, acted in the place of Mr. Low from the 14th April to 10th July. He was appointed a member of the Council on the 11th of July, *vice* Mr. Low, resigned.

Mr. Chastanet was absent for six months, during which time Mr. Graf acted.

ST. LUCIA, 1893.

Mr. Reeve was absent for six months, during which time Mr. Cropper acted.

Messrs. Lloyd, Chastanet, and Du Boulay were re-appointed members of the Council on the 9th of March.

Pensions.

There was no alteration in the Pension List during 1893.

Population.

The number of births during the year was the largest on record, there being a total of 2,161 births—1,110 males and 1,051 females. The gain to the population arising out of the excess of births over deaths was 890, thus raising the population by natural increase to 44,200 at the end of 1893.

Immigration.

There were 730 indentured East Indian Immigrants in the Colony at the close of the year, of which number 554 were adults, 395 of these being males and 159 females.

Excluding the East Indian immigrants who arrived in the Colony on the 10th December 1893, the births and deaths amongst the indentured coolies during the year were 37 and 15 respectively, giving a birth-rate of 6·7 per cent., and a death-rate of 2·5 per cent., the birth-rate being higher, and the death-rate lower, than the averages for previous years.

The birth and death rates amongst the indentured coolies compare as follows with those of the general population :—

	Per-centage.	
	Indentured Coolies.	General Population.
Birth-rate - - - - -	6·7	4·52
Death-rate - - - - -	2·5	2·47

It will be seen from the above statement that the birth-rate amongst the indentured coolies was 2·18 per cent. higher than that amongst the general population, while the death-rate was only 0·03 per cent. higher.

On the night of the 10th of December, the ship "Volga" with Indian immigrants on board arrived off the port of Castries after a quick and so far safe voyage from Calcutta; but, unfortunately, owing to keeping too close inshore the vessel went aground at the Vigie Point and became a total wreck. Providentially there was

not much wind blowing and the sea was comparatively smooth, so that, with the aid of the ship's boats and those from shore, every soul on board was safely landed without the occurrence of a single accident.

Of the immigrants on board, 487 were for Jamaica and 156 were for this Colony. The coolies for Jamaica remained in this Colony from the 10th to the 22nd December, on the afternoon of which latter date they were despatched for their destination in the ship "Jumna."

Education

With two exceptions, all the schools in the Colony are primary schools.

There were in 1893 thirty-one primary schools on the list of assisted schools, which with four Government schools made a total of thirty-five primary schools in operation in the Colony at the close of the year. Of these schools, twenty-two were Roman Catholic, four were Government, four were East Indian Mission, two were Anglican, two were undenominational, and one was Wesleyan.

Two new schools were opened during the year, namely, an Anglican school in Castries and a Roman Catholic school at Etangs in the neighbourhood of Soufriere.

An East Indian Mission school which had been established at Crown Lands (part of Central Factory Estate) but which had been closed in the end of 1892 by the action of the present authorities of the estate (the mortgagees) was reopened in February 1893, but was again closed by the same authorities in October of that year.

Four of the primary schools are infant schools, two of them being in Castries and two in Soufriere.

The Inspector of Schools reports that the year 1893 was one of general progress in school work, and calls attention to the remarkable decrease in the failures in 1893 compared with those in the previous year; the failures in 1893 amounting only to 59 out of 1,873 pupils presented for examination, or 3·15 per cent., against 314 failures in the year 1892 out of 1,644 presented, or 19·1 per cent.

The following comparative statement gives certain particulars and percentages which will serve to show what progress has been made in primary education since 1891:—

	1891.	1892.	1893.
Total population of St. Lucia - - - - -	42,200	43,310	44,200
Number of primary schools in the Colony -	28	33	35
Total number of children on school rolls -	3,149	4,156	4,544

	1891.	1892.	1893.
Average attendance - - - -	1,698	2,357	2,458
Number presented for examination - -	1,160	1,644	1,873
Number passed in two subjects - -	948	1,330	1,814
Centesimal proportion on rolls to total population - - - - -	7·46	9·59	10·28
Percentage of attendance of number on rolls -	53·9	56·7	54·1
Percentage of attendance presented for examination - - - -	68·3	69·7	76·2
Percentage of attendance passed in two subjects	55·8	56·4	73·8
Percentage of those presented which passed in two subjects - - - -	81·7	80·9	96·8

Speaking generally, there is much room for improvement in the various school premises and in the accommodation afforded by them, but as funds become available so will improvements in equal measure be effected.

Another consummation much to be desired is an improvement in the methods of instruction. At present there is, as a rule, no regular intelligent system followed, and owing, at least in part, to an insufficiency in the number of teachers, there is not as much of individual teaching as could be wished. Again, there is but little attempt at the cultivation of the reasoning faculties, an omission which becomes at once apparent when the pupil is asked a question involving in its answer the exercise of something more than the faculty of mere memory.

In the course of time, when teachers who have themselves been properly instructed how to teach become available, an improvement in methods and results will follow, and in the meanwhile the present teachers will from time to time be enjoined to make strenuous efforts to advance along the road towards the desired improvement.

Vital Statistics.

There were 2,161 births and 1,271 deaths registered during 1893, the excess of births over deaths, viz., 890, being the natural increase of the population during the year, and by which the population was brought up to a total, at the end of the year, of 44,200.

Of the 2,161 births 1,110 were males and 1,051 females.

The illegitimate births exceeded the legitimate by 465, there having been 1,313 illegitimate to 848 legitimate births. The illegitimate thus formed 60·76 and the legitimate 39·24 per cent. of the total births.

The still births numbered 201, or 10·25 per cent. of the live births; there being one still birth in every 10·75 of the total births.

Excluding still-births, the birth-rate for the year was 4·52 per cent. of the population.

This birth-rate compares favourably with that for the previous, and five preceding years, as the following statement will show:—

Year.	Live Births.	Still Births.	Total Births.	Legitimate.	Illegitimate.	Percentage of legitimate Births.	Percentage of illegitimate Births.	Birth-rate per cent. of Population.
1890 - -	1,574	130	1,704	594	1,110	34·86	65·14	3·65
1891 - -	1,771	158	1,929	735	1,194	38·10	61·90	4·05
1892 - -	1,604	156	1,760	720	1,040	40·91	59·09	3·76
1893 - -	1,960	201	2,161	848	1,313	39·24	60·76	4·52

The births in 1893 exceeded those recorded in any previous year, and the birth-rate advanced in proportion.

The deaths during the year, excluding still-births, amounted to 1,070, giving a death-rate of 2·42 per cent. The deaths and death-rate in the previous year were, exclusive of still births, respectively 1,002 and 2·31. The death rate for 1893 was slightly above the average for the preceding five or six years.

The deaths of children under one year of age amounted to 40·36 per cent. of the total deaths. The rate of infant mortality was very high in 1893, exceeding that for 1891 by 4·36 and that for 1892 by 5·13 per cent.

There were 265 marriages in the year. This number is 19 in excess of the marriages celebrated in 1892, but falls short of those which took place in 1891 by 131.

Imports and Exports.

Imports.

The total value of the imports for the year was 168,978*l.*, being 4,047*l.* less than the amount for 1892, and 2,503*l.* less than the average for the five years 1887–91.

Of the total imports, expressed in value, 86,838*l.* came from the United Kingdom; 26,602*l.* from British Colonies, and 55,538*l.* from Foreign Countries.

Of the 26,602*l.* worth of imports from British Colonies 20,556 worth came from Barbados, being more than three times the total from all the other British Colonies.

Next in amount comes Canada with 3,200*l.*, Jamaica with 894*l.*, St. Vincent with 577*l.*, and so on through an unequally descending scale until the sum of 3*l.* 3*s.* 0*d.* is reached, which expresses the value of the imports from Bermuda.

The following table shows the respective values for 1893 and for the five preceding years of the imports to St. Lucia from

British Colonies from which St. Lucia received imports of the value of 200*l.* or upwards in any one of those years:—

Countries.	Value of imports therefrom.					
	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.	1889.	1888.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Barbados	20,556	21,213	18,724	22,141	19,003	18,245
Canada	3,200	5,375	782	48	300	Nil
Jamaica	894	1,435	637	702	212	565
St. Vincent	577	223	3,256	225	5,933	2,052
Trinidad	510	399	113	610	2,333	152
Demerara	137	1,206	650	313	287	1,761

Of the total of 55,538*l.* worth of imports from foreign countries 36,550*l.* worth came from the United States of America, 9,957*l.* from France, 1,459*l.* from Germany, and the remainder from other foreign countries, including foreign West India Islands.

The subjoined table enumerates the imports, which show an increase or decrease of 200*l.*, or over, in value in 1893, as compared with the imports for the preceding year, and the amount of such increase or decrease.

Articles.	Amount of Increase in 1893 compared with 1892.	Articles.	Amount of Decrease in 1893 compared with 1892.
	£		£
Animals: Cattle	1,156	Ale, beer &c.	349
„ Mules	303	Bags, empty	983
Bacon and Hams	228	Bloomer and other chemicals used in the manufacture of sugar	279
Beef and Pork	430	Butter	657
Oleomargarine	1,395	Cement	350
Boots and shoes	854	Machinery and agricultural implements	4,595
Coals	4,144	Manure	4,893
Copper	502	Puncheons and casks	401
Cottons and woollens	1,525	Ropes and cordage	288
Fish, salted and dried	2,417	Twine	273
Flour, wheaten	432	Wood—pitch and white pine	1,174
Glassware	215		
Haberdashery	791		
Medicines	265		
Oats	865		
Oil; Olive, Cotton-seed, and Lard	403		
Rice	999		
Soap	674		

Exports.

The value of the exports for 1893 amounted to 221,646*l.*, against 179,056*l.* for 1892, being an increase in 1893 of 42,590*l.* Compared with the average for the five years 1887–91, the increase the amounts to 65,471*l.*

Of the 221,646*l.* worth of exports shipped during the year, 55,217*l.* went to the United Kingdom, 5,212*l.* to British Colonies, 118,000*l.* to Foreign Countries, and the remainder, 43,217*l.*, was value of the bunker coal shipped.

Amongst British Colonies, Barbados and Canada were our best customers, taking exports to the value of 2,434*l.* and 2,073*l.* respectively; and of Foreign Countries our best customers were the United States of America and France, which took exports to the amount of 65,367*l.* and 44,572*l.*, respectively.

In the following table are shown the articles of export in which an increase or decrease of 200*l.*, or over, in value occurred in the year 1893 as compared with the previous year, and the amount of such increase or decrease :—

Articles.	Amount of Increase in 1893 compared with 1892.	Articles.	Amount of Decrease in 1893 compared with 1892.
	£		£
Coal	384	Ammunition	370
„ Bunker	517	Animals—horses	201
Cocoa	15,440	Farine manioc	1,032
Fruits fresh	282	Rum	295
Logwood	34,041	Molasses	2,824
Pimento sticks	743	Vegetables and Provisions (fresh)	373
Fuel and other woods	448		

It will be perceived from the above table that, comparing 1893 with the previous year, there was a large increase in 1893 in the export of cocoa and logwood, and a considerable decrease in the export of farine manioc and molasses.

The subjoined table exhibits a comparative statement of the value of the exports in 1893 of the four principal articles of export, and the average value of those articles for the preceding ten years 1883–92:—

Articles.	Value.		Increase in 1893 over Average for 10 preceding Years.	Decrease in 1893 below Average for 10 preceding Years.
	1893.	Average for 10 Years 1883–92.		
Sugar :	£	£	£	£
Usine	76,106	50,929	25,177	—
Muscovado	14,463	42,784	—	28,321
Molasses	4,756	5,947	—	1,191
Cocoa	38,910	19,671	19,239	—
Logwood	37,752	5,022	32,730	—
	171,987	124,353	77,146	29,512

The foregoing table shows that, compared with the average exports of similar products for the decennial period 1883–92, there was a large increase in 1893 in the export of usine sugar, cocoa, and logwood, amounting in the total to 77,146*l.*; and a large decrease in the export of Muscovada sugar, and a considerable decrease in that of molasses, amounting in the total to 29,512*l.*; giving a difference, in the way of a net increase in 1893, of 47,634*l.*

The value of the exports in 1893 exceeded that of the imports by 52,668*l.* Excluding the value of coal imported and exported, the excess amounted to 30,037*l.*

Shipping.

Six hundred and fifty-four vessels entered, and 651 cleared at the port of Castries during the year. Of those that entered 251 were sailing and 403 were steam vessels, with an aggregate tonnage of 485,816 tons.

Of the sailing vessels that entered, 213 were with cargo and 38 were in ballast; and of the steam vessels, 192 were with cargo and 211 were in ballast.

The nationality of these vessels was as follows:—

—	Sailing Vessels.	Steam Vessels.
British	208	341
French	24	25
United States	4	1
Dutch	6	—
Norwegian	4	1
Swedish	3	—
Italian	1	—
Columbian	1	1
Russian	—	4
Belgian	—	17
German	—	2
Portuguese	—	1

The number of vessels which entered in 1893 exceeded that for the previous year by 53; the increase being made up of five sailing, and 48 steam, vessels, and there was an increase of 87,567 tons in the tonnage.

The following table shows the number of vessels and the amount of tonnage entered during 1893, and the averages for the preceding five years, 1888–92 :—

Entered.	1893.		Average for Five Years 1888–92.		Increase in 1893 over Average for Five preceding Years.		Decrease in 1893 compared with Average for Five preceding Years.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Sailing Vessels :								
With cargo - -	213	13,805	227	14,469	—	—	14	664
In ballast - - -	35	5,703	20	2,575	18	3,128	—	—
Steam Vessels :								
With cargo - -	192	212,881	155	167,639	37	45,242	—	—
In ballast - - -	211	253,427	189	224,447	22	28,980	—	—
Total - -	654	485,816	591	409,130	77	77,350	14	664

Post Office.

During the year 49,815 letters and post-cards were despatched to the United Kingdom and other places outside the Colony, and 54,349 letters and post-cards were received therefrom; 42,716 inland letters and post-cards passed through the Post Office, making a total of 146,880 letters and post-cards dealt with by the Department.

Book packets, samples, and circulars to the number of 98,500, and parcels to the number of 1,511, passed through the Post Office during the year.

The following is a comparative statement, showing the number of letters, post-cards, papers, and books despatched and received in 1893 and in each of the five preceding years :—

1888.		1889.		1890.	
Letters and Post-cards.	Papers and Book Packets.	Letters and Post-cards.	Papers and Book Packets.	Letters and Post-cards.	Papers and Book-Packets.
75,891	35,714	86,363	56,961	90,748	59,523

continued.—

1891.		1892.		1893.	
Letters and Post-cards.	Papers and Book Packets.	Letters and Post-cards.	Papers and Book Packets.	Letters and Post-cards.	Papers and Book Packets.
102,997	87,998	118,511	94,036	146,880	98,500

It will be seen from the above table that, in a period of five years, the number of letters and post-cards passing yearly through the Post Office has nearly doubled, and that of papers and books and packets has more than doubled.

Money orders to the amount of 4,593*l.* were issued, and to the amount of 872*l.* were paid, during the year.

The following were the receipts from the sale of stamps, commissions on money orders, &c.

	£
Stamps sold	2,161
Unpaid letters delivered	30
Commission on Money Orders	77
Rent of letter boxes	26
	£2,294

being 2*l.* in excess of the amount received in 1892.

Crown Lands.

Grants of Crown Lands to the number of 16 in the country and 14 in towns were made during the year under report, the total acreage granted being 260 acres.

The Crown now possesses about 12,678 acres, and estates comprising an area of 12,233 acres are now in process of being escheated.

Gaols and Prisons.

The Royal Gaol, Castries, is a general prison and also a military prison for soldiers undergoing a military sentence not exceeding fourteen days. It is also used as a prison of detention for military prisoners, sentenced by court-martial to longer terms of imprisonment than fourteen days, while awaiting transfer to Barbados.

The number of persons committed to prison in 1893 was 909, a number largely in excess of that for previous years. Of the committals, 59 were those of soldiers committed by sentence of a court-martial.

Of the number committed, 610 were for purposes of penal imprisonment, 298 were for safe custody till trial, or for want of security, and one was for contempt of Court.

The daily average number in prison during the year was 70·3, being 20·67 in excess of the daily average for the year 1892.

There were fourteen admissions to hospitals, and the daily average on the sick list was 1·81, a slight increase of 0·11 over the daily average for the preceding year.

There were two deaths during the year, giving an annual death-rate of 2·84 per cent.; or 0·42 per cent. higher than the general death-rate for the year amongst the population at large.

Corporal punishment was awarded four times during the year, and the total number of lashes inflicted was 68.

The subjoined table shows the figures for the years 1890 to 1893 respectively :—

Year.	Total number committed.	For debt. (Contempt of Court.)	For safe custody.	For purposes of penal imprisonment.	Number of those committed who have been previously convicted.			Daily average number in prison.	Number of admissions into hospital.	Daily average on sick list.	Number of Deaths.
					Once.	Twice.	Thrice or more.				
1890	460	19	119	341	49	11	37	50·77	10	1·61	*2
1891	547	7	127	413	56	40	57	48·50	21	2·26	3
1892	579	—	128	451	45	29	60	49·63	18	1·70	3
1893	909	1	298	610	127	65	78	70·30	14	1·81	2

* One executed.

Criminal Statistics.

The number of offences reported to the police or the magistrates during 1893 amounted to 2,130, a against 1,691 in 1892 and 1,599 in 1891.

Of the number of offences reported, 516 were for offences against the person, 121 for prædial larceny, 190 for offences against property other than prædial larceny, and 1,303 were for other offences.

The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before a magistrate in 1893 amounted to 2,226, exceeding the number for the previous year by 211.

The number of persons summarily convicted was 1,209, and the number committed for trial in the Superior Courts 39. Of the latter number, 37 were indicted, 2 were not indicted, 27 were convicted, and 10 were acquitted.

ST. LUCIA. 1893.

The following table shows the number of offences, apprehensions, convictions, &c. in 1893 and 1892 respectively, and the averages for the five years 1887–91:—

—	1893.	1892.	Average for Five Years, 1887–91.
Number of offences reported to police -	2,130	1,691	1,339
Number of persons apprehended by police or summoned before the magistrates - - - - -	2,226	2,015	1,634
Number of summary convictions - -	1,209	1,143	817
Number of persons committed for trial in the superior courts - -	39	23	30
Number of persons acquitted in inferior courts - - - -	978	849	788
Number of persons convicted in superior courts - - - - -	27	8	10
Number of persons acquitted in superior courts - - - -	10	9	10

The number of committals to prison in 1893 largely exceeded that for 1892, and still more largely exceeded the average for previous years. Several causes combined to bring about this increase, the principal being the advance of Castries as a coaling port, the establishment of a garrison in its neighbourhood, and the influx from the neighbouring West Indian Colonies of persons of loose and bad character.

A certain proportion of the increase in the committals was made up of the committal of road tax defaulters for non-payment of the road tax, and of indentured East Indian Immigrants for such offences as absence from the estates without leave, and for neglecting or refusing to work.

A large proportion of the total committals to prison was for minor offences, and of the 27 persons convicted in the Royal Court, 12 were soldiers of the West India Regiment, who were convicted for rioting.

Hospitals.

In my reports for the years 1891 and 1892, I was able to state that the sanitary condition of the hospitals of the Colony was very satisfactory, and I am glad to be able to report that, throughout 1893, this desirable sanitary condition of the hospitals continued without exception to obtain.

No diseases of an epidemic nature appeared in the Colony during the year under review, and the general health of the community at large was good.

The Colonial Surgeon in his report for the year writes as follows:—

"The general health of the island has been very good, and to "the most casual observer the adipose and muscular condition "of the West Indian, and the rubicund appearance of the "European, troops, their general set up and elastic step, indicate "a vigour and tone that speak well for the general health of the "climate under fair hygienic conditions."

There were 2,397 patients admitted into the hospitals (exclusive of the Yaws Hospital) during the year, making, with those remaining in hospital from the preceding year, viz., 129, a total of 2,526 patients treated. Of this number 2,076 were discharged cured, 154 were discharged relieved, and 144 died.

Of the 2,526 patients treated in hospital during the year, 731, or 28·9 per cent., were cases of malarial fever. The type of this disease was generally mild, and the mortality was but small, amounting only to 1·37 per cent. of the number treated.

The death-rate for the total number of patients treated in hospital during the year was 5·7 per cent.

Yaws Hospital.

There were 41 patients admitted into the Yaws Hospital during the year, which, with 38 patients remaining in hospital from the previous year, made a total of 79 cases treated. Of this number, 48 were discharged cured, and 6 died, the deaths being at the rate of 7·6 per cent. of the number treated.

Dispensaries.

The number of patients who received medical and surgical aid at the several dispensaries in the Colony was 10,228. The principal diseases treated were, as in previous years, malarial fevers, and diseases of the digestive system.

Poor Asylum.

There were 66 destitute persons admitted into the Poor Asylum, Castries, during the year, making, with the number remaining in the asylum at the close of 1892, viz., 37, a total of 103 destitute persons whose wants were supplied and infirmities were relieved or alleviated in the asylum during the year.

The numbers who found shelter, food, and medical aid in the asylum during the years 1891 and 1892 were, respectively, 128 and 116.

Most of the inmates suffered either from chronic and incurable diseases or from senile decay.

Of the number (103) who received aid in the asylum during the year, 41 were discharged relieved, and 14 died, leaving 48 remaining in the asylum at the close of the year 1893.

The death-rate was 13·59 per cent., being the lowest death-rate recorded for many years past.

Lunatic Asylum.

This asylum, which is situated at Soufriere, is a temporary one in which lunatics are detained until they can be transferred to the Central Lunatic Asylum at Grenada. Eight lunatics were admitted into the asylum in 1893, and of these three were discharged cured.

General.

The total number of cases treated during the year under review in the hospitals and asylums and at the dispensaries was 12,946, at a total cost (including salaries of medical officers, hospital attendants, &c.) of 5,879*l.*, which gives an average of 9*s.* 1*d.* per case, and an average of 2*s.* 8*d.* per head of the population.

Botanical Station.

The work carried out at the Botanical Station during the year was of the usual routine nature, and considerable progress was made in filling up the adjoining swamp to a level with the garden.

The various trees and shrubs continue to thrive, and notably so in the case of the palms.

Specimens of the following fibres were prepared at the Station:—

Sisal hemp.
Manilla hemp.
Bowstring hemp.
Mauritius hemp.

The sisal hemp fibre was over 5 feet in length, and was strong and of good colour.

The amount realised by the sale of plants, flowers, &c. was 47*l.*

Meteorology.

The mean temperature in the shade, as shown by the observations taken at the Morne, at an elevation of 745 feet above sea level, was 76·8.

The mean maximum temperature for the year was 83·2, and the mean minimum 70·5.

The highest monthly mean maximum temperature (80·8) occurred in September and October, and the lowest monthly mean minimum (67·5) in March.

The absolute maximum temperature (87·6) occurred in the months of August and November, and the absolute minimum (57·2) in March.

The total rainfall for the year amounted to 113·6 inches, being in excess of the average rainfall for several previous years.

The heaviest monthly rainfall (18·51 inches) occurred in July, and the lowest (3·18 inches) in March.

General Observations.

The year under report was a fairly prosperous one for the Colony, the crops having been good and the prices obtained, especially for cocoa and logwood, having been higher than the average for several previous years. The value of the cocoa and logwood exported in 1893 exceeded that of the exports of these articles in 1892 by 15,440*l.* and 34,041*l.* respectively. Compared with the previous year, there was an increase in 1893 in the number of vessels which entered the port of Castries amounting to 53, and in the tonnage there was an increase of 87,567 tons.

The revenue for the year exceeded that for 1892 by 3,301*l.* and on the transactions of the year there was a balance to the credit of the Colony of 2,327*l.*

The planting of cocoa, both in land formerly devoted to the cultivation of the sugar cane and in land hitherto uncultivated, continues to increase from year to year, but, although the increase so far as it goes is satisfactory, it is not of such amplitude as could be wished, and the quantity of cocoa at present grown falls far short of the potentialities of the island as a cocoa-producing country.

The year was unmarked by any destructive atmospheric or telluric disturbance, and, as I have already remarked, was a healthy and fairly prosperous one for the Colony.

V. SKIPTON GOULDSBURY,
Administrator.

No. 129.

SIERRA LEONE.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1893.

(For Report for 1892, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 96.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
February 1895.

LONDON:
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1895.

[C.—7629–12.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
96	Sierra Leone	1892
97	Fiji	,,
98	Rodrigues	,,
99	St. Helena	,,
100	British Bechuanaland	1892–93
101	British Guiana	,,
102	Newfoundland	1892
103	Jamaica	1892–93
104	Victoria	1892
105	Bermuda	1893
106	Gambia	,,
107	Hong Kong	,,
108	St. Vincent	,,
109	Gibraltar	,,
110	Bahamas	,,
111	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
112	Leeward Islands	,,
113	Barbados	,,
114	Malta	,,
115	Zululand	,,
116	British Honduras	,,
117	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
118	Falkland Islands	,,
119	Rodrigues	,,
120	Mauritius	,,
121	Straits Settlements	,,
122	Labuan	,,
123	Basutoland	1893–94
124	St. Lucia	1893
125	St. Helena	,,
126	Ceylon	,,
127	Fiji	,,
128	Grenada	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 129.

SIERRA LEONE.

[For Report for 1892 *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 96.]

Governor CARDEW to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House,
Freetown, Sierra Leone,
December 31, 1894.

MY LORD MARQUESS,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Report on the Blue Book of the Colony of Sierra Leone for the year 1893. I regret that there should have been such great delay in forwarding this Report, but, as I was not in the Colony during the year 1893, I awaited the return from leave of Major Crooks in order that he might prepare it, especially as during nearly seven months of the period to which it relates he was administering the Government. Major Crooks has prepared this Report from the manuscript returns for the Blue Book as they passed through his hands, but I fear it will be a month or more before the Blue Book itself is ready for transmission to your Lordship, as this year it is being printed for the first time; I have again to express my regret at this further delay but I trust in future the Blue Book, as well as the Report on it, will be more punctually forwarded.

I have given directions for an additional number of copies of the Blue Book to be struck off for sale on application as soon as it is printed.

I have, &c.
F. CARDEW, Governor.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK, 1893.

Colonial Secretariat,
Freetown, Sierra Leone,
December 29, 1894.

SIR

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Excellency my report on the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1893.

SIERRA LEONE. 1893.

(1.) TAXES AND DUTIES.

The only change under this head is "The Customs Duties Amendment Ordinance, 1893," which came into operation on the 1st March 1893.

The said Ordinance provides as follows:—

By Section I. the duty of 2*s.* on spirits imposed by Section II. of Ordinance No. XI. of 1874 is increased to 3*s.* per proof gallon.

Section II. empowers the Governor to exempt from the payment of Customs duties official goods imported into the Colony for the use of Consulates, and virtually enlarges the "Table of Exemptions" in Section V. of Ordinance No. 14 of 1887. The exercise of this power is, however, made discretionary with the view of making the exemption restrictive.

Section III. repeals the 3rd section of Ordinance No. 16 of 1890, which established a special tariff for the Isles de Los. By this repeal the tariff for the whole Colony becomes uniform.

The tariff consists of an *ad valorem* duty of 7½ per cent. and certain specific duties, which are moderate. Articles imported for agricultural, manufacturing, and educational purposes, and coals are exempted from duty.

There is no export duty, nor is there any direct taxation.

(2.)—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Revenue.

The total revenue, including the Parliamentary grant in aid of the colonial steamer, was 92,769*l.*, showing an increase of 5,903*l.* over that for 1892.

There was, however, a net decrease of 4,131*l.* on the estimated revenue (96,900*l.*) due principally to the reduced quantity of spirits entered for home consumption, in consequence of the higher rate of duty referred to under the head of "Taxes and Duties."

More than three-fourths of the revenue is derivable from Customs duties on articles imported into the Colony.

Expenditure.

The estimated expenditure was 96,650*l.* and the amount actually expended was 84,690*l.*, showing a saving on the estimates of 11,959*l.*

The saving was principally on "Public Works," under which head a sum of 4,000*l.* was provided for the drainage of Freetown, but it was not undertaken, the municipal Ordinance having been found to be unworkable.

The expenditure on account of drainage was to be conditional upon the establishment of the municipality.

(3.)—ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The assets on 31st December 1893 exceeded the liabilities by 20,741*l.*, and the Colony at the close of the year was in a better position by 10,544*l.* than at the same period in 1892.

(4.)—PUBLIC DEBT.

This remains the same as at the close of the year 1892, viz., 50,000*l.*, raised in 1871–73 for constructing Public Works, to be repaid in 1896–98.

The sinking fund for its redemption amounted to 37,391*l.* on 31st December 1893.

(5.)—MUNICIPALITY.

"An Ordinance to create the Town of Freetown a Municipal "City and to incorporate the inhabitants thereof" passed the Council on 21st February.

The council is to consist of a mayor and 15 councillors, three of whom are to be appointed by the Governor and Executive Council, the others are to be elected.

Freetown contains over 30,000 inhabitants.

(6.)—MILITARY EXPENDITURE.

There is no contribution from the Colony, which is an important coaling station, for the maintenance of the military establishment, the entire expenditure of 41,769*l.* (local), being borne by the Imperial Government.

The garrison consists of a battalion of the West India Regiment, a European detachment of the Royal Artillery, Native Battery of West African Artillery, and a Native detachment of Fortress Engineers.

The troops receive an allowance which amounted during the year to 975*l.* as compensation for customs duties payable by them.

There is no militia force. The Sierra Leone Royal Militia was disbanded in 1863, and since then no similar corps has been organised.

(7.)—THE POLICE FORCE.

The armed Police Force for frontier work consisted, on the 31st December 1893, of 5 European Officers, 4 Native Sub-Inspectors, and 344 men.

The Sierra Leone Police maintained for town work consisted on 31st December 1893 of one Native Sub-Inspector and 200 men.

(8.)—PUBLIC WORKS.

The expenditure on Public Works, repairs to buildings, roads, streets, and bridges, amounted to 8,065*l.*

No public work of magnitude has been undertaken, owing to want of funds and the absence of a surveyor.

(9.)—LEGISLATION.

Seventeen Ordinances were passed during the year, the most important being the "Customs Duties Amendment Ordinance" and the "Freetown Municipal Ordinance."

These have been already referred to under the head of "Taxes" and "Municipality."

(10.)—CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

The Governor.

Sir Francis Fleming, K.C.M.G., was absent from the Colony on leave from 27th April to 8th November, and during that period Major J. J. Crooks, the Colonial Secretary, administered the Government.

(11.)—PENSIONS.

The sum paid on account of pensions and other retiring allowances during the year amounted to 3,258*l.*, being an increase of 273*l.* over that of the previous year.

(12.)—POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.

A census was taken on 5th April 1891 in such parts of the Colony in which it was found practicable to do so. It was necessary, for political reasons, to confine it to those parts only which were comprised in that of 1881, as it was apprehended that, through ignorance, the aborigines living in some of our newly acquired territory would misconstrue the object of the enumeration and become unnecessarily dissatisfied.

The numbers were: coloured 74,611, white 224, total 74,835.

Within the last few years there has been a large influx of aborigines to the capital, in order to obtain either freedom or employment, but it is not possible to estimate their number.

Births and Deaths.

From the vital statistics furnished by the various district registrars, the total number of births registered during the year was 1,286, and deaths 1,294.

This is an improvement on the previous year, when the excess of registered deaths over births was 203, but, as stated in my report for 1892, the registration system, so far as births are concerned, is, on account of local circumstances, defective.

(13.)—ECCLESIASTICAL.

There are 130 places of worship belonging to the various Christian sects, and, according to the census returns for 1891, the numbers of persons professing Christianity was 41,361.

The Church of England is the only one receiving State aid. All the others are either self-supporting, or aided by Missionary Societies. Only the Bishop of the Anglican Church, the Roman Catholic priests, and the superintendent of the Wesleyan and the Free Church Methodists are European; all the other ministers of religion are Africans.

(14.)—EDUCATION.

The number of schools examined during the year was 62, the number of pupils on the rolls 4,253 boys, and 4,057 girls, and the amount of Government grants awarded 989*l.*

The Inspector of Schools in his report for 1893 says:—

> "I am pleased to be able to observe, generally, that I found the working of the schools improved, and that there has been corresponding improvement in the results of examination; 7,014 children were present at the inspections, or a percentage of 84·4 of the total enrolment, 8,310."

There are six high schools in Freetown, three for boys and three for girls, with a total attendance during the year under review of 387 boys and 274 girls.

Fourah Bay College, on the outskirts of Freetown, belongs to, and is supported by, the Church Missionary Society, and, by being affiliated to the University of Durham, its students are eligible to take degrees in Arts, Theology, &c.

Newspapers.

Two weekly newspapers were published in Freetown and a fortnightly one at Sherbro', but, judging from their limited circulation, little interest is taken in them by the public.

(15.)—IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Imports.

The total value and the direction of the trade of the Colony, and the Customs duty realized during the year 1893 are as follows:—

Value of Imports from:	£
United Kingdom	325,829
British Colonies	5,543
Foreign Countries	86,094
Total value	£417,466
Customs Duty	£72,171

SIERRA LEONE. 1893.

There has been a falling off in the imports from the United Kingdom of 6,369*l.* as compared with the year 1892, principally in cotton goods, the French Company having ceased in 1893 to use the warehouse in Freetown as a depôt for Northern River trade.

Notwithstanding this falling off, nearly four-fifths (325,829*l.*) of the total imports for the year were from the United Kingdom.

The British Colonies show an increase of 729*l.*

The increase in value of imports from foreign countries of 9,989*l.* is due chiefly to larger importations of tobacco from America.

The net increase in imports is 4,349*l.*

The principal articles imported were cotton goods, spirits, tobacco, and hardware.

The increase of 2,766*l.* in Customs duty on goods imported, as compared with the previous year, is due to the additional duty of one shilling (1*s.*) per gallon on spirits, imposed by Ordinance No. 1 of 1893.

Exports.

The value of Exports during the year 1893 is as follows:—

	£
To United Kingdom - - -	- 166,055
To British Colonies - - -	- 30,480
To Foreign Countries - -	- 202,129
Total value - -	£398, 664

There has been a falling off of 29,243*l.* in the value of exports to the United Kingdom, due to less exportation of specie 15,000*l.*, rubber 9,000*l.*, and gum 2,754*l.* The two latter are obtained chiefly from the French Northern Rivers, where an export duty of 7 per cent. is imposed.

The decrease of exports to British Colonies, 4,765*l.*, is due to the quarantine regulations in respect to cholera, as referred to under "Shipping," which affected the export of kola nuts to the Gambia to the extent of about 6,000*l.*

The increase of exports to foreign countries, 12,221*l.*, is due to larger exportation of palm kernels to France and ginger and hides to America.

There is a net increase of 21,787*l.* in the value of exports.

The chief exports were palm kernels, rubber, kola nuts, palm oil, ginger, rice, gum copal, pepper and benni seed.

(16.)—SHIPPING.

The total number of sailing vessels and steamers entered and cleared during the year was 1,515, with a tonnage of 746,512 tons, showing a falling off of 23 vessels (principally sailing) as compared with the previous year.

Quarantine.

The Health Officer reports—

"That quarantine was strictly enforced on all ships coming to the port with foul bills of health, and from places declared 'infected' within the meaning of the Quarantine Ordinance, 1882.

"The following places were declared infected: Marseilles, St. Louis, and Teneriffe, and strict precautionary measures were observed against the following places:—

"In Europe.—Hamburg, Antwerp, Bilbao, London, Rotterdam, Altona, Hull, Brest, Amsterdam, Grimsby.

'On the West of Africa.—Gambia and French Guinea.

"These restrictions were enforced on 48 vessels from the 4th January 1893 to 13th January 1894, and in consequence 288 passengers, Krooboys, &c. were detained in the lazaretto at different times, either to undergo quarantine or to be fumigated and disinfected.

"In view of the outbreak of cholera which was raging at St. Louis, Rufisque, and neighbouring countries, Freetown was divided into medical districts to be placed under the supervision of the Assistant Colonial Surgeon and the private medical practitioners, whose services were to be retained temporarily by the Government for this duty. Fortunately the disease was not introduced into the Colony."

(17.)—AGRICULTURE.

There has been no marked improvement under this head. Three persons purchased 52 acres of land at 4*s.* 2*d.* per acre from the Government during the year for agricultural purposes.

There is no doubt that with time and patience the land of the country could be made to yield very valuable products. Hitherto commerce has been the only means whereby any real effort has been made to enrich the Colony.

(18.)—MANUFACTURES, MINES, AND FACTORIES.

There is nothing done under this head, and no improvement may be looked for until such time as the people put trust in one another and establish companies, as in other parts of the world.

(19.)—GAOLS AND PRISONERS.

The number of prisoners committed to and received in the prisons of the Colony during the year were:—

Males, 505; females, 37; juveniles, 16; total, 558; showing a considerable decrease as against 752 for 1892, 865 for 1891, and

797 for 1890. This large decrease is dealt with in the Acting Queen's Advocate's report under the head of "Criminal Statistics."

(20.)—CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The number of offences reported during the year was 1,478, the number of persons apprehended 1,678, the number of summary convictions 633, Supreme Court convictions 52, and acquittals 554.

The Acting Queen's Advocate, in his report on the "Criminal Statistics Return" of 1893, says :—

"The number of 'offences reported to the Police' continues to decrease, and is 1,478 as against 1,695 for 1892, 1,914 for 1891, and 1,753 for 1890.

"There is also a corresponding decrease in the number of 'persons apprehended by the Police' or summoned before the Magistrates, the number being 1,678, or 2·29 per cent. of the whole population of the Colony according to the Census of 1891, and is less by 267 than the number of persons brought before the Magistrates' Courts in the preceding year, and is also fewer than each of the numbers for the last three preceding years, which were 1,945, 2,095, and 1,973, for the years 1892, 1891, and 1890 respectively."

"It will be observed that the number of summary convictions is 633 as against 928 in 1892, and 1,054 and 950 in the years 1891 and 1890 respectively. Larceny, of which 224 persons were convicted, is the predominant crime in the Colony, closely followed by 'offences against the person,' of which 190 persons were summarily convicted.

"Eighty-one persons were committed to the Supreme Court for trial, and of these the Queen's Advocate entered a *nolle prosequi* in 14 cases, leaving 67 for trial, which resulted in 52 convictions and 15 acquittals. Of the above committals four were for murder, resulting in two convictions, one acquittal, and in one case a *nolle prosequi* was entered. Of the two convictions, the full penalty of the law was enforced in one case—that of a soldier who murdered his comrade at Tower Hill Barracks in open day ; in the other, as there were extenuating circumstances in connexion therewith, and the jury recommended the prisoner to mercy, the sentence was commuted by the Governor in Council to ten years' imprisonment."

(21.)—HOSPITALS.

The total number of persons admitted into the various hospitals of the Colony during the year was 1,121, and the number of deaths 170.

The Colonial Surgeon in his annual report for 1893 states :—

"Admissions into the Freetown Hospital were restricted to serious cases of illness, accidents, and to those requiring surgical

interference. This is due to the limited number of beds in the Colonial Hospital; an increase of 10 beds has been approved for next year (1894) which I trust will meet to some extent the increasing demands of the inhabitants to become intern patients of the hospital.

"Many of the cases were admitted in serious conditions and 24 died within 72 hours after admission. The majority of them were cases picked up in the streets and suburbs of Freetown, and conveyed to the hospital by the police and sanitary authorities.

"During the year the sanitary condition of the hospital has been satisfactorily maintained as hitherto. The buildings and offices have undergone a large amount of repairs, and have been thoroughly painted, and they have at present a pleasing appearance. The hospital garden is still kept up and looked after."

Freetown Gaol Hospital.

"The sanitary condition of the Gaol has been maintained during the year.

"The extension of the hard-labour yard by the removal of the western boundary wall has added considerably to the good health of the prisoners, who are made to move about the yard one hour after meals before being locked up for the night.

"During the period under review, 60 cases of 'Beri-Beri' were treated in the Gaol. A large number of these, however, had been in prison during the previous year.

"Five convicts were released on medical grounds, as their lives were endangered by continuance in prison.

"Towards the last quarter of the year, the disease 'Beri-Beri,' seemed to have disappeared amongst the prisoners. From this disease 7 deaths occurred.

"The following were the diseases prevalent in the Gaol during the year:—

"Beri-Beri, Malarial Fever, Diarrhœa, and Dysentery."

Male and Female Incurable Hospitals.

These asylums, situated at Kissy, about 3 miles from Freetown, are merely a refuge for the incurables and destitute persons.

The Medical Officer reports that, since the ground floor of the day shed has been concreted, the chigoes pest has considerably abated.

(22.)—LUNATIC ASYLUM.

The total admissions during the year were 30, discharges 4, and deaths 13.

There is only one Asylum in the Colony, and it receives lunatics from the Colonies of Gambia and Lagos as well. The building is situated at Kissy.

The Medical Officer, in his report for the year, states that "the lunatics at the asylum have on the whole enjoyed very good health "during the year. They have been well cared for, and "everything which could give pleasure to them encouraged and "instituted."

There were 99 inmates in the Asylum at the end of the year.

(23.)—CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

Besides the Government hospitals and asylum there are no Almshouses or private charitable institutions in the Colony, excepting the Princess Christian Hospital, founded at the instance of Bishop Ingham and his wife in 1892, which is situated in Fourah Bay Road, on the grounds of Bishop's Court.

The Colonial Government votes 400*l.* annually towards the relief of the poor generally, and the grant is distributed monthly by the Charity Commissioners.

(24.)—SAVINGS BANK.

The Treasury Savings Bank was established in January 1882. The number of depositors at the end of that year was 44. On 31st December 1893 the depositors were 2,206, and the amount due to them 30,725*l.*, which shows that this institution is much appreciated by the public.

(25.)—RAILWAYS, CANALS, ROADS, &c.

There are no railways, canals, inland telegraphs, or telephones in the Colony, and but few roads deserving the name. Internal communication is chiefly by water. Horses do not live in the Colony for any time.

Telegraphic communication with Europe, by way of Bathurst in the Gambia, was established in 1886. An annual subsidy of 1,300*l.* is payable to the African Direct Telegraph Company for 20 years.

Mr. W. Bradford, C.E., Railway Surveyor, arrived in the Colony on 8th November, with instructions to see in the first place how the shipping in the port of Freetown, and Freetown itself, can be connected with the adjacent country and "hinterland" by a light railway, and whether the rich country to the south of the Peninsula of Sierra Leone, and especially the Sulima valley, can be advantageously served by a separate railway.

A survey of the route from Freetown to Bumban, 140 miles, and Mina to Gorahun, 55 miles, was completed before Mr. Bradford's return to England in May this year

(26.)—POST STATISTICS.

There were 26 Post Offices and 2 Money Order Offices in the Colony at the end of the year. The total number of letters, &c. dealt with in 1893 was 342,152, and the Money Order transactions amounted to 36,495, showing a considerable increase over previous years.

GENERAL REMARKS.

I am pleased to be able to reiterate the statement in my report on the Blue Book of the Colony for the year 1892 as to the general condition of the Colony being satisfactory.

The people are progressive, loyal, and contented. The treaty Chiefs continue to be on friendly terms with the Government.

The Public Health.

The Colonial Surgeon in his annual report for 1893 states:—

"The public health during the year was satisfactory. A large number of European ladies resided in Freetown, as in the year 1892. On the whole the health of the European population was good, there being only eight deaths registered amongst the residents.

"Of the 13 Europeans buried in the Freetown cemetery (including 5 brought in from mail steamers) the causes of death were registered as follows for those residing in the Colony:—

4 from Pernicious Malarial Fever.
1 „ Puerperal Fever.
1 „ Acute Rheumatic Fever.
1 „ Sub-acute Mania.
1 „ Tetanus Neonaturum."

The diseases prevalent during the year were the usual Malarial Fever, Dysentery, and diseases of the chest, such as Pneumonia and Bronchitis.

Very few cases of small-pox were recorded in Freetown.

Rainfall.

The rainfall for the year, as taken at the Colonial Hospital, Freetown, was 168·06 inches, as against 145·78 in 1892.

Monrovia.

In pursuance of instructions, the Governor proceeded to Monrovia on 18th January. He was cordially received by his Excellency the President, and had a long conversation with him on the state of affairs in Half Cavalla caused by British traders landing goods at p aces other than ports of entry on the Liberian coast.

The Governor's Salary.

The Governor's salary and office expenses (2,500*l.*), an annual grant from Imperial funds in previous years, was this year, in view of the great improvement which has taken place in the financial position of the colony, paid from Colonial funds.

Hon. S. Lewis, C.M.G.

Among the Birthday honours of the year, the Companionship of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George was conferred upon Honourable Samuel Lewis, unofficial member of the Legislative Council.

Mr. Lewis is the first native African in Africa who has been the recipient of such high honour, and the intelligence was received in the Colony with much satisfaction by all classes of the community.

Proclamation.

On 10th July the Administrator (Major Crooks), accompanied by an escort of 100 men of the West India Regiment with six field guns, left Freetown for Porto Lokkoh, to assert sovereignty over the district ceded to the Government by the treaty entered into in 1825 by Major-General Turner and the Chiefs of the Baca Loko District.

On the following day, a meeting of the Chiefs was held on a large open plain where the Muslims generally assemble to pray on their great feast days, when the Proclamation was read, the Union Jack hoisted, and a royal salute fired.

The gathering was said to be one of the largest and most orderly that has ever taken place at one time from and around the District of Porto Lokkoh. The military escort was drawn up in line with the field guns to the left, and the bright uniforms and glistening bayonets in the morning sun presented a scene such as has never before, I believe, been witnessed in that district, and it created a very strong impression on the minds of the audience, who sat as if spellbound.

Treaty.

On 26th September a Treaty was entered into by the Administrator with Bey Inga, King of the Ro Bureh or Small Skarcies country, placing the country under the protection of Great Britain.

The King was promised by Her Majesty's Government that the customs of his country would not be interfered with beyond what may be necessary to maintain peace and order and to prevent the traffic in slaves.

The district affected by this step lies on both banks of the Small Skarcies river, between the Magbemah and Mafoki Districts,

and its Chiefs entered into a treaty of friendship with Her Majesty's Government as far back as 1851.

The Locusts.

On 25th November a vast swarm of locusts, passed over Freetown from the eastern district (Waterloo), darkening the heavens as they moved along and damaging the rice crop.

There was considerable excitement in the city on the occasion, no similar visitation having taken place since 1843.

In the earlier part of the year the locusts passed over the farms in the Great and Small Skarcies districts and North Bullom.

In reference to the expedition to Tambi, 1892, I remarked that "West Africa is seldom free from intertribal wars, and that "Sierra Leone may be said to have had its own share in little "wars during the past decade."

Unfortunately the year 1893 was no exception in this respect, it being found necessary to despatch an—

Expedition against the Sofas.

The Government having received several reports from the Police of the depredations committed and the devastation wrought by the Sofas in Kuniki and Kuranko, it was decided to send an expeditionary force against them in November.

Accordingly a force of 17 officers and 431 men, under the command of Colonel A. B. Ellis, C.B., the West India Regiment, left Freetown during the last week of November and early part of December, and advanced from Bendu in Sherbro to Banguma in Bambara *viâ* Mafwe, and thence to Kerra Yemma, the chief position of the Sofas.

Before daybreak on the 23rd December the British Camp at Warina, Konnoh Country, was attacked by Lieutenant Maritz, of the French Army, with a force of 30 Tirailleurs Senegalais, and about 1,200 Native Allies, mistaking the force in camp to be Sofas, under Porokerri, endeavouring to escape from the sphere of British influence and join Samadu. A very heavy and well-sustained fire, both from rifles and muskets, was kept up on the camp and our losses in this melancholy affair were, killed, Lieutenants Liston and Wroughton, Sergeant-Major, and four privates, 1st Battalion West India Regiment, and Captain Lendy, Inspector-General, and two privates of the Frontier Police Force; wounded, one Sergeant-Major and 14 men of the West India Regiment and three men of the Frontier Police.

Lieutenant Maritz died at noon, from wounds received, and he was buried with military honours along with our dead at 4 p.m.

The Sofas attacked the town of Tungeah in the Mongrey District, on the morning of 28th December, but were repulsed with considerable loss by the Frontier Police under Sub-Inspector Taylor. Porokerri, the leader of the party, was killed.

SIERRA LEONE. 1893.

At Bagbwema (on 2nd January 1894) the Sofas were taken by surprise and their loss was about 200 killed and 77 prisoners. In the forest outside the town about 70 were shot down; 673 slaves, women and children, who had been carried off by the Sofas in their various raids, were rescued.

The troops commenced the return march on 10th January 1894, and the headquarters of the expedition reached Freetown on 21st.

The officer in command reports that the devastation wrought by the Sofas was far greater than he had supposed. In addition to the depredations committed in Kuniki and Kuranko, a large part of Bambara, the northern half of Saua Konno, and the whole of Sanda Konno, had been laid waste. The Sofas were simply slave hunters. With or without pretext they attacked in succession the surrounding tribes, taking the rice and other crops for their own use, slaughtering the men, and seizing the women and children as slaves. It will take many years to repair the mischief done.

The Training Squadron, consisting of H.M. Ships "Active," "Volage," "Calypso," and "Ruby," visited Freetown in December, en route to the West Indies.

I have, &c.
J. J. CROOKS,
Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency Colonel F. Cardew, C.M.G.,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief
of Sierra Leone.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 121.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1893.

(For Report for 1892, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 81.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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1895.

[C.—7629.-4.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
87	Falkland Islands	1892
88	Gold Coast	,,
89	Basutoland	1892–93
90	Ceylon	1892
91	Zululand	,,
92	Mauritius	,,
93	Labuan	,,
94	British Honduras	,,
95	Lagos	,,
96	Sierra Leone	,,
97	Fiji	,,
98	Rodrigues	,,
99	St. Helena	,,
100	British Bechuanaland	1892–93
101	British Guiana	,,
102	Newfoundland	1892
103	Jamaica	1892–93
104	Victoria	1892
105	Bermuda	1893
106	Gambia	,,
107	Hong Kong	,,
108	St. Vincent	,,
109	Gibraltar	,,
110	Bahamas	,,
111	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
112	Leeward Islands	,,
113	Barbados	,,
114	Malta	,,
115	Zululand	,,
116	British Honduras	,,
117	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
118	Falkland Islands	,,
119	Rodrigues	,,
120	Mauritius	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 121.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

[For Report for 1892, *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 81.]

Sir C. B. H. MITCHELL to the MARQUESS of RIPON.

Tanjong Kling, Malacca,
MY LORD, September 9, 1894.

I HAVE the honour to forward copies of the report by the Colonial Secretary, in anticipation of the Blue Book of the Straits Settlements for the year 1893.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. B. H. MITCHELL.

REPORT IN ANTICIPATION OF THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1893.

(Extract.*)

FINANCIAL.

For the Straits Settlements, as for other silver-using countries, the year 1893 was one of exceptional difficulty and crisis. The, sudden appreciation of gold, and the consequent rapid decline in the exchange value of the local currency, not only caused such a dislocation of trade as to create considerable anxiety among the mercantile community (a result the gravity of which can hardly be over-estimated in a Colony whose importance and prosperity have from the first been based on the volume of trade attracted to its two great commercial centres—Singapore and Penang) but placed the Colonial Government face to face with a number of problems connected with the successful carrying on of the administration under largely altered conditions.

2. The possibility of such changes in the currency itself as might secure, in some measure, that fixity of exchange without which, it was contended by some, the trade of the Colony could not rest on a sure and stable basis, engaged the attention both of the Government and the mercantile community throughout the year. Insignificant in point of area, even if their dependencies—the Protected States of the Malay Peninsula—are counted in, the Straits Settlements take no mean place in the trade statistics of the Empire, and the question of placing

* NOTE.—Some of the statistics contained in the original report have been omitted.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS. 1893.

their trade on a satisfactory basis deserves, therefore, and should command, the interest of many outside the narrow limits of the Colony itself.

3. In the month of July, a Committee, comprising some of the leading European and Chinese merchants, as well as several of the senior officers of Government, commenced its sittings in Singapore, and in September their report, with various appendices, including notes of the evidence taken, was remitted to the Colonial Office.

4. Although all were agreed as to the serious effect which the condition of the local currency was having on trade and capital, a notable divergence revealed itself among the members of the Committee as to the remedy which should be adopted. The proposal which received the support of the largest number was the inclusion of the Settlements within the currency area of British India, and even those who did not take this view recognised that one great difficulty in dealing with the question arises from the fact that, unlike India, the Settlements have, except subsidiary coins, no coinage of their own.* The position of the Colony in this respect is anomalous, the legal tender being the Mexican dollar and the Japanese yen—coins obtained from foreign countries, and over the supply of which the local Government is not able to exercise any control.

5. The consideration of the other questions arising from the same cause, viz., the decline in the exchange value of silver, was necessarily postponed till the end of the year, in the hope that some solution of the currency problem might be found. While, on the one hand, many of the existing sources of revenue were seriously threatened by the dislocation of trade, on the other, great caution had to be exercised in devising new means of raising revenue without interfering with the freedom of trade which had enabled the Settlements to grow into great entrepôts of commerce. Moreover, a largely enhanced proportion of the revenue had, under the new conditions, to be set aside to meet those items of expenditure which have to be paid in England, such as stores, &c. procured through the Crown Agents, and the contribution paid by the Colonial to the Home Government towards the maintenance of an Imperial garrison in Singapore. And again, while it was generally felt that the decline in the value of salaries paid in silver inflicted unmerited hardship upon the European officers of Government, it was not possible to offer them any compensation until the financial position of the Colony should be more assured.

6. The influence of the above considerations will be apparent in the following review of the finances of the Colony, while at the same time the statistics of trade and shipping for the year (which will be found below) offer satisfactory evidence of the stable foundation of the prosperity of the Settlements.

* NOTE.—Since the above was written it has been decided to coin a British dollar for the Straits Settlements and Hong Kong.

7. The Revenue of the Colony for the year 1893 amounted to $3,706,308 (Singapore $2,099,029, Penang $1,323,340, Malacca $283,939) being more than the Revenue of 1892 by $53,430.

8. The principal heads under which the increase is noticeable are:—

	$
Land revenue - - - -	19,991
Fees of office - - - -	24,482
Interest - - - - -	38,700

In the case of Land Revenue, the increase is mainly due to the recovery of payment for certain Crown lands which had been the subject of encroachment by private persons. For these, on approved terms, grants were issued. There were no special sales of town lands during the year.

The growth of the permanent Land Revenue continues to be satisfactory. The steady rise of Crown Rents in all three Settlements, in consequence of improved administration, was the subject of remark in last year's report. The rise has been as follows:—In Singapore, from $27,891 in 1883 to $41,676 in 1893; in Penang, from $26,179 in 1883 to $61,887 in 1893; and in Malacca, from $55,441 in 1883 to $77,497 in 1893. The increase under the head of Fees of Office is due to the collection of new fees for the veterinary inspection of animals imported into the Colony, and to increased receipts under the Chinese Immigration Ordinance.

9. The principal decrease was under the head of Licences, the receipts for 1892 having been swelled by an item of $49,000 received in that year for arrears for 1890 on the Singapore opium and spirit farms.

10. The expenditure for 1893 amounted to $3,915,482, showing a decrease as compared with 1892 of $350,925.

The principal heads under which a decrease is apparent are as follows:—

	$
Works and buildings - - -	192,480
Military expenditure - - -	85,444
Interest - - - - -	51,410
Roads, streets and bridges - - -	34,775
Revenue services - - - -	15,593

It should be observed, however, that the amount paid away in 1892 under the heading of Military expenditure included a final payment of $162,162 for arrears.

The most noticeable increase is under the head of Miscellaneous Services, and amounts to $23,874.

11. A comparison of the assets and liabilities on 31st December 1893 gives a balance in favour of assets of $1,534,514, as against $1,726,683 on the 31st December 1892, showing that the available balances have been encroached upon to the extent of $192,169. In the balance of $1,533,874 are included the investments given under the head of Dependencies, amounting to $1,110,464, these

being loans to the Native States and the municipality of Malacca.

12. The downward tendency of exchange after May 1893, is exhibited in the following table, which is inserted in order to show the course of exchange during the year :—

Bank Bills.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.
	s. *d.*	*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*
On London :— Sterling, on demand, Highest -	2 8⅞	2 8⅞	2 8⅞	2 8⅞	2 9⅛	2 8⅞	2 7⅛	2 6⅛	2 5⅜	2 5⅜	2 4⅝	2 4⅝
Lowest -	2 8⅛	2 8⅛	2 8⅛	2 8⅜	2 8⅛	2 7	2 4⅝	2 5⅜	2 5⅛	2 4⅛	2 4	2 4⅛

The average rate of exchange during the year on demand was 2*s.* $7\frac{1}{6}$*d.*, and at four months' sight was 2*s.* $7\frac{4}{6}$*d.*, as compared with 2*s.* $10\frac{2}{6}$*d.* and 2*s.* $10\frac{3}{6}$*d.* in the preceding year.

The total estimated bank note circulation of the Colony on the 31st December 1893, was $7,119,480. It is confined entirely to the note issue of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, and of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, as the reconstructed Mercantile Bank of India, Limited, issued no notes during the year.

MUNICIPALITIES.

13. It is impossible, within the limits of this report, to do more than give a general view of the financial position of the municipal bodies in the Colony.

The expenditure has exceeded the revenue in all the Municipalities. The Singapore Municipality has obtained a new loan of $150,000, and the Penang cash balance has been much reduced. The Malacca Waterworks were completed in 1893 by Government, at a total cost, including up-keep for six months, of $250,083. The quality of the water is not, however, yet satisfactory, and further expenditure to improve the supply may become necessary. In the meantime, no water-rate can be levied in Malacca.

The bulk of the expenditure on roads and bridges falls on the general revenue of the Colony, and not on the rates.

LEGISLATION.

14. In comparison with some previous years, there was little fresh legislation in 1893. Ten meetings of the Legislative Council were held, and seven Ordinances were passed, intituled as follows :—

No. I.—An Ordinance to provide for the Recognition in the Colony of Probates and Letters of Administration granted in the United Kingdom and in British Possessions.

No. II.—An Ordinance to amend the law as to Appeals in Civil Matters.

No. III.—An Ordinance to consolidate, define, and amend the Law of Evidence.

No. IV.—An Ordinance for the Incorporation of the Titular Anglican Bishop of Singapore, Labuan, and Sarawak.

No. V.—An Ordinance for making provision for the Public Service for the year 1894.

No. VI.—An Ordinance for making Final Provision for the Public Service for the year 1892.

No. VII.—An Ordinance to amend "The Societies Ordinance 1889."

The most important of these, viz., No. III., the Evidence Ordinance, is based on the Indian Evidence Act. The new Criminal Procedure Code, which passed the Council in 1892, has not yet been brought into force, the principal difficulty being those parts of this measure which prescribe the duties of the Public Prosecutor and his deputies, which, it is feared, may involve special expenditure if put in force.

REGISTRY OF DEEDS.

15. The fees collected under "The Registration of Deeds Ordinance, 1886" (which is based on the principle of the Yorkshire Act, and has been so far only applied to the Settlement of Singapore), amounted to $5,290, being 75 cents below the total receipts of the previous year. Preparation was commenced for the application of this Ordinance to the Settlement of Penang, where the extent of occupied land, and consequently the number of titles and dealings in land, are larger than in Singapore.

PUBLIC WORKS AND SURVEYS.

16. The financial outlook debarred the Government from initiating any costly works during the year, and rigid economy had to be exercised even in respect of the up-keep and maintenance of existing roads and buildings. Under these circumstances, the completion of the Malacca Water Works, already mentioned, constitutes the only undertaking to which reference need here be made. It has been seen above that the expenditure for the year shows a decrease under the two headings of Works and Buildings, and Roads, Streets and Bridges, of no less than $225,447 on the figures for 1892.

The close of the year saw the completion of the revenue survey of Penang Island, George Town, and Province Wellesley.

POSTAL DEPARTMENT.

17. There was a considerable increase in the correspondence which passed through this Department, evidenced by the fact that 5,313,340 articles were received and despatched in 1893, as compared with 5,023,340 in 1892.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS. 1893.

The postal revenue amounted to $138,322, and exceeded the expenditure by $590, but fell short of the total receipts of 1892 by $28.

The silver crisis in June had a very depressing effect on the business of the Money Order Branch during the second half of the year. The transactions in 1893 numbered 32,900 for an aggregate amount of $572,791, as compared with 33,651 for $588,126 in the previous year. The decrease was chiefly in business with India, but, in spite of exchange continuing to be unfavourable to remitters, there are signs of returning activity in this branch.

In view of the heavy fall in the value of silver, steps have been taken to re-adjust the scale of Straits postage rates to a closer equivalent of the Postal Union tariff, with effect from the 1st March 1894.

SAVINGS BANK.

18. The following statement gives the particulars of the business transacted by the branches at Singapore, Penang, and Malacca during the year:—

	Singapore.	Penang.	Malacca.
New accounts opened	553	147	43
Accounts closed	417	98	28
Accounts open at the end of the year	1,188	308	72
	$	$	$
Deposited in 1893	102,346	30,904	7,798
Repaid in 1893	89,457	30,584	6,638
Balance due to depositors at close of 1893	155,890	40,693	8,354

The increase in the amount deposited during the year over that deposited in the previous year was $1,282. The deposits during 1892 showed an increase over the figures for 1891 of $17,315.

The total sum at the credit of depositors on the 31st December, 1893, was $204,937, and the aggregate amount lodged since the establishment of the Bank in 1877 proved to be $1,188,080. Under Ordinance III. of 1891, the sum of $90,670 has been invested in Government of India 4 per cent. Rupee Paper.

EDUCATION.

19. Two hundred and thirty-six (236) schools were inspected, and 8,581 pupils examined during the year, as compared with 200 schools and 8,468 pupils in 1892.

The expenditure on Education amounted to $183,345, as compared with an expenditure of $180,350 in 1892.

The average enrolment at the boys' schools in the Colony is shown in the following table:—

	1892.	1893.
Government English schools - -	1,027	980
Aided English Schools - - -	3,419	4,861
Government Malay schools - - -	7,216	7,106
Total - - - - -	11,662	12,947

The average enrolment in the Government and Private Girls' Schools in 1892 was 1,912, as against 1,781 in the previous year.

During the year, a special Committee appointed by the Governor investigated and reported on the system of Malay Vernacular Education in vogue in the Colony.

POPULATION.

19. The number of births registered in 1893 in all the Settlements was 12,388, of which 6,555 were those of male, and 5,833 those of female, children.

The deaths registered in 1893 numbered 16,945 as against 16,033 in 1892, or an increase of 912, the highest rate of mortality having been recorded at Singapore. As in 1892, the greatest number of deaths occurred among persons between the ages of 25 and 35.

The following table gives the number of births and deaths registered in each Settlement during the past two years:—

Settlement.	Births.		Deaths.	
	1892.	1893.	1892.	1893.
Singapore - -	3,326	3,332	5,621	6,776
Dindings - - -	104	110	79	95
Penang - -	2,395	2,303	4,241	4,167
Province Wellesley -	3,262	3,487	3,331	2,956
Malacca - - -	3,603	3,156	2,761	2,951
Total - -	12,690	12,388	16,033	16,945

21. In this connexion, it may not be without advantage to guard against a misconception which might not unnaturally arise from the comparison of the above figures with those of other tropical Colonies with a large settled indigenous population. A death-rate so largely in excess of the recorded birth-rate might be taken to indicate either exceptional unhealthiness of climate or a deplorable deficiency in sanitary precautions. The disproportion may, however, be explained in the main by a glance at the composition

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS. 1893.

of the population of the Colony. The Census returns for 1891 gave a total for the three Settlements of 512,342 persons, of whom less than a third were females. The Chinese, excluding Straits-born, numbered in all 193,232, the bulk of these being immigrants from South China, who have left their wives and families behind them. The proportion of males to females among the Chinese in the Colony was more than six to one. A similar disproportion between the sexes is to be noticed, though in less degree, among the Tamils from the Coromandel coast, who form another important element in the population, as well as among the Europeans and the various races of the Archipelago represented. The only stable elements are the Malays and Jawi Pekans (196,243), the Eurasians (7,057) and the Straits-born Chinese (34,757), which all show a slight preponderance of females. The decade 1881 to 1891 showed an average annual increase in the population of 2·1 per cent. The present population may, therefore, be roughly estimated at 545,000.

Statistics relating to the health of the Settlements during the year will be found lower down under the heading "Public Health."

CHINESE IMMIGRATION.

22. During the year 1893 there was a large increase in the arrivals of Chinese deck passengers from China, the number being 189,843, as compared with 122,029 in 1892 and 126,088 in 1891. Coolies have arrived from Hong Kong, Swatow, Amoy, and Hainan in increased numbers.

There was an increase of 2,773 in the number of female immigrants, 9,640 having arrived, as against 6,867 in 1892. Of these, 6,387 landed in Singapore, 3,215 proceeded to Penang and 38 to other ports. One thousand two hundred and eighty-three (1,283) of the Singapore arrivals proceeded subsequently to the Protected Native States and other places.

The total number of labour contracts executed in the Colony was 38,326, as against 23,448 in 1892. Contracts to labour in the Dutch Possessions show an increase of 4,392, and the Native States contracts an increase of 9,725. Contracts for Province Wellesley also show an increase of 376.

Out of the total number of contracts made in the Colony, 29,179 were for labour in the Colony and Protected Native States, and 9,147 for labour in other places. The corresponding figures for 1892 were, respectively, 18,991 and 4,457.

INDIAN IMMIGRATION.

23. During the year, 2,106 statute immigrants with 237 dependents arrived in the Colony.

Of this number, 1,189 were for service in the Colony, and 917 for service in the Native States. The figures show an increase in the number of statute immigrants of 385, as compared with 1892.

Fifteen thousand eight hundred and seventy-seven (15,877) immigrants not under indenture arrived in the Colony, showing a decrease of 493, as compared with the previous year's arrivals. Fourteen thousand and forty-four (14,044) immigrants returned to India.

The following table gives the statistics of the Indian Immigration Department for the last 11 years :—

——	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.
Immigrants under indenture -	1,450	1,539	1,642	2,748	4,736	4,684	2,747	2,960	3,443	1,628	2,106
Dependents - -	176	177	49	244	310	317	104	158	293	423	237
Free immigrants	8,979	14,365	19,819	17,316	12,156	15,812	15,285	18,301	26,446	16,370	15,877
Total arrivals -	10,605	16,081	21,510	20,308	17,202	20,813	18,136	21,419	30,182	18,421	18,220
Returned to India	9,041	10,749	13,417	18,105	12,596	13,190	14,099	15,276	23,913	17,722	14,044
Remained in the Colony - -	1,564	5,332	8,093	2,203	4,606	7,623	4,037	6,143	6,269	699	4,176

TRADE.

24. The following tables give the value of the imports and exports at the three Settlements in 1893 and 1892 respectively :—

Imports.

——		Singapore.	Penang.	Malacca.	Total.
MERCHANDISE.		$	$	$	$
United Kingdom - -	1893	11,582,432	3,878,943	—	15,461,375
	1892	12,435,751	3,374,373	147,457	15,957,581
British Possessions - -	1893	25,297,299	14,899,133	—	40,196,432
	1892	23,284,426	14,909,704	—	38,194,130
Foreign Countries - -	1893	67,239,825	20,967,682	388,809	88,596,316
	1892	56,676,554	18,767,694	278,233	75,722,481
Inter-Settlements - -	1893	4,124,097	2,796,443	1,270,574	8,191,114
	1892	4,200,195	2,231,023	1,079,540	7,510,758
Total Value of Merchandise	1893	108,243,653	42,542,201	1,659,383	152,445,237
	1892	96,596,953	39,282,794	1,505,230	137,384,950
TREASURE.					
Total Value of Treasure -	1893	15,730,989	1,367,931	71,891	17,170,811
	1892	10,373,136	2,138,782	177,055	12,688,973
Total Imports of Merchandise and Treasure -	1893	123,974,642	43,910,132	1,731,274	169,616,048
	1892	106,970,062	41,421,576	1,682,285	150,073,923
Grand Total Value of the Imports of the Straits Settlements - - - - -	1893				169,616,048
	1892				150,073,923

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS. 1893.

Exports.

		Singapore.	Penang.	Malacca.	Total.
MERCHANDISE.		$	$	$	$
United Kingdom	1893	17,887,530	12,082,871	—	29,970,401
	1892	15,753,583	9,246,674	—	25,000,257
British Possessions	1893	12,542,366	6,192,008	—	18,734,374
	1892	10,744,016	5,848,765	—	16,592,781
Foreign Countries	1893	59,036,668	18,083,680	385,730	77,506,078
	1892	5,5497,427	18,202,214	224,845	73,924,486
Inter-Settlements	1893	3,413,564	3,377,472	1,535,043	8,326,079
	1892	2,358,749	3,782,640	1,173,183	7,314,572
Total value of Merchandise	1893	92,880,128	39,736,031	1,920,773	134,536,932
	1892	84,353,775	37,080,293	1,398,028	122,832,096
TREASURE.					
Total value of Treasure	1893	15,575,954	3,957,691	84,405	19,618,050
	1892	13,496,674	6,594,525	88,672	20,179,871
Total exports of Merchandise and Treasure	1893	108,456,082	43,693,722	2,005,178	154,154,982
	1892	97,850,449	43,674,818	1,486,700	143,011,967
Grand Total Value of the Exports of the Straits Settlements	1893				154,154,982
	1892				143,011,967

25. The trade of the year (as shown in the above table) has not been wholly unsatisfactory, notwithstanding the continuous decline in exchange. The loss caused by the depreciation fell most heavily on the wage-earning classes and upon those firms principally concerned with import business. In all cases where the produce of the Straits has had to compete with that of gold countries, the low exchange has operated in favour of the export trade of the Colony. The political complication which arose in Siam about the middle of the year caused an interruption to the important trade between Singapore and Bangkok, which was, however, largely made up for by the rush of business which ensued when matters again settled down. On the other hand, the new Tariff for French Indo-China threatens to extinguish the trade of the Straits with that country, the same right under the minimum tariff clause being denied to the Colony which is allowed to the mother country. The imports from French Indo-China (Colony or Protectorate) declined from $6,894,551, to $6,408,980, and the exports from $2,038,213 to $1,376,890.

26. The Colony's total trade in merchandise reckoned in silver shows an increase of over 10 per cent. on 1892, there being an increase on the Import side of nearly 11 per cent., and on the Export side of over 9½ per cent. The increase is, however, counterbalanced by the decline of nearly 10½ per cent. in the average sterling exchange value of the dollar in 1893 compared

with the average in 1892. The following are the totals for 1892 and 1893, deducting Treasure:—

	1893.	1892.
	$	$
Value of Imports - - -	152,445,237	137,384,950
Value of Exports - - -	134,536,932	122,832,096
Total - - -	286,982,169	260,217,046

Converting these totals into sterling at the rates of 2*s.* 6¾*d.* per dollar for 1893, and 2*s.* 10¾*d.* per dollar for 1892, we have the following results:—

	1893.	1892.
	£	£
Value of Imports - - -	19,532,046	19,605,977
Value of Exports - - -	17,237,544	17,529,164
Total - - -	36,769,590	37,135,141

While, therefore, there is an increase in dollar value of $26,765,123 in the trade in merchandise, its sterling value exhibited a decrease of 365,551*l.*

27. It will be convenient to deal with the results, in the first instance, as they affect the principal countries with which the Straits have commercial relations, and afterwards to point out the effects upon the trade in certain leading commodities of import or export.

28. Taking value alone, the imports from the United Kingdom show a decrease of nearly half a million of dollars, in spite of the higher value put on the goods on arrival, so that it is clear that the actual decrease was even more serious. The principal falling off has been in cotton piece goods and coal. The exports to the United Kingdom show an increase of $4,970,144, principally in tin, gambier, hides and sugar. Exports to the United States fell from $10,917,099 to $6,443,659.

From British India and Burma the imports were valued at $22,374,573, as against $21,832,491 in 1893, the increase in this case being counterbalanced by the fall in the rupee exchange value of the dollar consequent on the closing of the Calcutta Mint. The exports rose from $7,592,955 in 1892 to $9,004,468 in 1893. The trade with Netherlands India (which has the same currency as Holland, and is therefore to be reckoned among gold countries) shows a small increase in imports ($21,409,443, against $20,242,002 in 1892) and a larger increase in exports, viz., $26,156,035, against $23,816,632.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS. 1893.

29. Turning now to the principal silver countries with which the Colony deals, the trade with which has been only indirectly affected by the silver crisis, a very satisfactory advance may be observed.

The imports from Hongkong and China amounted in 1893 to $19,385,774 (Hongkong $16,035,507, China direct $3,350,277) as against $16,757,420 in 1892. The exports amounted to $12,372,177 (Hongkong $8,231,456 and China direct $4,140,721) against $11,275,773 in 1892. The trade with Japan shows also a marked increase—in Imports from $857,791 in 1892 to $2,204,425 in 1893, and in Exports from $170,665 to $454,127 in the year under review.

The Imports from the Malay Peninsula (including the Siamese States) reached $34,422,611, as against $29,185,087—the increase being largely due to the greatly stimulated output of tin and tin ore in the Protected States, while the Exports advanced from $12,611,914 to $14,979,724.

30. The following table exhibits the increase and decrease in the Export and Import of certain commodities as compared with the preceding year :—

Imports.

	1893.	1892.	Increase.	Decrease.
Cotton piece goods -	Pieces. 3,765,832	Pieces. 4,627,745	—	861,913
Coal - - -	Tons. 334,138	Tons. 334,305	—	167
Rice - - -	Pikuls. 6,702,383	Pikuls. 6,318,981	383,402	—
Opium - - -	Chests. 15,397	Chests. 13,397	1,665	—
Silk piece goods - -	Pieces. 390,514	Pieces. 255,491	135,023	
Petroleum - -	Cases. 1,028,516	Cases. 825,991	202,525	—

Exports.

Coffee - - -	Pikuls. 50,764	Pikuls. 69,747	—	18,983
Gambier - - -	800,423	844,550	—	44,127
Gums - - -	178,532	159,705	18,827	—
Spices - -	925,129	910,386	14,743	—
Tapioca - - -	631,017	539,962	91,055	—
Tin - - -	739,743	636,002	103,741	—
Copra - - -	484,381	429,870	54,511	—

31. A few remarks will help to give significance to the above figures.

Cotton Goods.—The falling off in cotton goods is entirely on those imported from the United Kingdom. A trade with Japan sprang up suddenly during the year, the value of the Singapore imports of these goods from that country having risen from $1,520 in 1892 to $105,014 in 1893. There has been a notable decrease on the export of cotton goods from Singapore to Saigon.

Coal.—Low exchange and labour difficulties at home told heavily against Cardiff and in favour of Japan coal. The import figures from the latter country reached 118,379 tons, against 51,047 tons in 1892. The imports from the United Kingdom and Australia show decreases of 34,166 tons and 37,594 tons respectively.

Rice.—The principal feature calling for remark in respect to this trade was an advance on the imports from Siam balanced by a decreased importation from Saigon, Calcutta and Rangoon—the last of these in spite of an abundant *padi* harvest in Burma. The large trade in this commodity between Penang and Rangoon received, indeed, a severe check from the appreciation of the rupee.

Opium.—There was an increase of 1,665 chests imported and an increased export of 810 chests as compared with 1892. The total imports amounted to 15,397 chests, and the exports to 12,501. In addition to these totals, 3,050 chests were transhipped in Singapore for Manila, Saigon, and Java.

Petroleum.—There was an increased import of petroleum of over 200,000 cases, compared with the previous year. The increases were from Russia 112,986 cases, and from Sumatra 172,494 cases. The American import fell off by 81,629 cases. Prices fell about 25 per cent., owing to competition.

Gambier.—The total export of gambier shows a decrease of 44,127 pikuls on the figures of the previous year, but was higher than that of any year before 1892. The total import was larger than in any preceding year.

Gums.—Increased exports were observable in most gums, and the few decreases were unimportant, with the exception, perhaps, of gutta, which fell off nearly 4,000 pikuls.

Spices.—The most important increase is in areca-nuts by 74,014 pikuls, and the chief decreases in black pepper, 36,637 pikuls, white pepper, 17,787 pikuls, and nutmegs 3,593 pikuls.

Tapioca.—The increase is solely in flour, other kinds remaining stationary. Singapore received from Malacca 232,833 pikuls, being an increase of 19,056 pikuls.

Tin.—The tin industry was very prosperous during the year The tin comes mostly from the Protected States of the Peninsula The quantity exported was 103,741 pikuls in excess of the returns for 1892.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS. 1893.

The following table gives the exports in pikuls and tons for the last five years:—

1889	-	-	-	554,747 pikuls = 33,021 Tons.
1890	-	-	-	537,190 „ = 31,976 „
1891	-	-	-	605,829 „ = 36,061 „
1892	-	-	-	636,002 „ = 37,857 „
1893	-	-	-	739,743 „ = 44,032 „

A very large falling off in the export to the United States was one of the features of the year. The exports to the United Kingdom, however, increased by 131,020 pikuls.

SHIPPING.

32. The following table shows the arrivals and departures of shipping in the Colony during 1893 and 1892:—

Steamers and Square-rigged Vessels.

	Singapore.		Penang.		Malacca.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Arrivals, 1893 -	4,435	3,519,063	2,898	1,597,441	1,376	239,898	8,709	5,356,402
Do. 1892 -	4,143	3,280,222	2,970	1,630,643	1,344	239,232	8,457	5,150,097
Departures, 1893 -	4,402	3,425,283	2,902	1,592,087	1,371	240,034	8,675	5,257,404
Do. 1892 -	4,114	3,181,801	2,953	1,629,879	1,341	238,658	8,408	5,050,338
Total, 1893 -	8,837	6,944,346	5,800	3,189,528	2,747	479,932	17,384	10,613,806
Do. 1892 -	8,257	6,462,023	5,923	3,260,522	2,685	477,890	16,865	10,200,435

Native Craft and Steamers under 50 Tons.

	Singapore.		Penang.		Malacca.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Arrivals, 1893 -	7,062	277,994	4,193	92,887	1,744	28,120	12,999	399,001
Do. 1892 -	7,966	309,162	4,479	101,752	2,092	35,601	14,537	446,515
Departures, 1893 -	6,936	270,391	4,200	91,530	1,725	27,569	12,861	389,490
Do. 1892 -	7,887	307,258	4,524	103,946	2,087	35,479	14,498	446,683
Total, 1893 -	13,998	548,385	8,393	184,417	3,469	55,689	25,860	788,491
Do. 1892 -	15,853	616,420	9,003	205,698	4,179	71,080	29,035	893,198

33. The number and tonnage of the new vessels built in the Colony in 1893 and 1892 is shown in the following table:—

	No.	Tonnage.
1893	66	4,003
1892	57	3,593

34. Some idea of the relative importance of shipping and commerce in 1893 and 1892 for Singapore and Penang may be gathered from the following Returns:—

SHIPPING (EXCLUSIVE OF NATIVE CRAFT).

Singapore.

1893 - 8,837 vessels, measuring 6,944,346 tons.
1892 - 8,257 „ „ 6,462,023 „

Penang.

1893 - 5,800 vessels, measuring 3,189,522 tons.
1892 - 5,923 „ „ 3,260,522 „

TRADE.

Singapore.

	$
1893	232,430,724
1892	204,820,511

Penang.

	$
1893	87,603,854
1892	85,096,394

The total increase in the revenue was $7,122.56, of which $6,511.32 was in Light Dues. To this item of revenue, Singapore contributed an increase of $4,791.16, Penang $1,494.45, and Malacca $225.71.

35. The revenue (Light Dues and Miscellaneous Fees) collected by the Marine Department in each Settlement during 1892 and 1893 appears in the subjoined table:—

	Singapore.	Penang.	Malacca.	Total.
	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.
1893	85,695 78	23,868 92	2,325 78	111,890 48
1892	80,482 09	22,321 61	1,964 14	104,767 84

LIGHTHOUSES, &c.

36. The lighthouses, launches, buoys, and beacons were maintained in an efficient condition. It was decided towards the close of the year to erect a lighthouse on the Sultan Shoal, near the western approach to Singapore Harbour. Time-balls were set up at Singapore and time-signals commenced to be given on the 8th July.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

37. The general health of the Colony for 1893 has been fairly good, the mortality being 32·10 per mille.

Small-pox was prevalent in all the Settlements, particularly in Province Wellesley. In Singapore and Malacca the numbers were slightly in excess of those for 1892, whilst in Penang there was a very marked decrease.

Cholera.—An outbreak of this disease occurred at Malacca during the dry months of March and April; there were in all 78 cases, 51 of which proved fatal; the disease at once declined on the advent of rain. In Singapore, six cases, all fatal, were reported, whilst Penang and Province Wellesley had complete immunity.

Chicken-pox and Measles were met with occasionally, and outbreaks of *Mumps* were reported from Singapore and Province Wellesley, in both instances very mild.

Beri-beri.—Cases of this disease have been slightly more numerous than during 1892, but the mortality amongst them has not risen.

Hydrophobia.—No case of this disease is reported as having occurred in the Colony, emphasizing the value of the preventive measures adopted in 1890. One case of this disease, contracted in Java, was seen at the General Hospital, Singapore.

38. The following table gives the number of patients treated in all Government Hospitals, and of the deaths among them, during 1893, as compared with 1892 and 1891 :—

	Number of Patients treated.			Number of Deaths.			Percentage of Deaths to Total treated.		
	Europeans.	Natives.	Total.	Europeans.	Natives.	Total.	Europeans.	Natives.	Total.
1893 - - -	910	22,589	23,499	37	2,297	2,334	4·06	10·16	9·9
1892 - - -	809	21,822	22,631	31		2,251	3·83	10·17	9.94
1891 - - -	944	22,176	23,120	43	2,710	2,753	4·55	12·22	11·90

39. The number of patients treated, and the deaths that occurred, in hospital in each of the Settlements were as follows:—

Settlement.	Total treated.	Deaths.
Singapore - - - -	10,353	1,101
Penang and the Dindings - -	6,078	709
Province Wellesley - -	2,376	320
Malacca - - - -	4,692	204

At the lunatic asylum, the numbers treated were 439, with 48 deaths.

At the Maternity Hospital, 58 patients were admitted.

40. The numbers who received treatment as out-patients at the Government out dispensaries is shown in the annexed table:—

Settlement.	No.	Visits paid.
Singapore - - - -	4,226	16,086
Penang and Dindings - -	5,138	10,710
Malacca - - - -	4,005	4,795
Total - -	13,369	31,591

BANKRUPTCY ORDINANCE.

41. The total number of Receiving Orders and of Administration Orders under sections 99 and 113 made and proceeded with during the year is shown in the following table:—

———	No. of Proceedings.	No. of Debtors.
In Singapore - - -	32	38
In Penang - - - -	12	12
In Malacca - - - -	1	1
Total - -	45	51

In 1892, the number of the proceedings was 41, and the number of debtors 50.

Liabilities, according to the debtors' estimates, amounted to $490,931, as against $667,305 in 1892, and the proofs lodged

with the Official Assignee gave a total of $219,580, as against $663,242 in 1892.

REGISTRATION OF JOINT-STOCK COMPANIES.

42. No company was registered at Singapore under the "Companies Ordinance, 1889," during the year 1893. One registered company increased its capital, and one went into voluntary liquidation. The amount of fees collected under the Ordinance mentioned was $418.60.

METEOROLOGY.

43. The following statement shows the mean temperature of the air at each of the Settlements during the year :—

	Maximum.	Minimum.	Mean.
	Fahr. °	Fahr. °	Fahr. °
Singapore - - - -	86·8	72·3	78·7
Penang - - - - -	87·7	73·1	79·8
Province Wellesley - - -	92·0	73·0	79·9
Malacca - - - -	88·3	69·4	78·7

44. Returns of rainfall for the whole year were received from 47 stations in the Colony. The heaviest rainfall was in Penang.

The following table shows the mean total rainfall at each of the Settlements, the maximum and minimum rainfall registered in one month, and the maximum in 24 hours :—

Settlement.	Total Rainfall.	Maximum Fall in one Month.	Minimum Fall in one Month.	Maximum Fall in 24 hours.
	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.
Singapore - -	111·41	Jan. - 32·23	May - 1·68	Jan. 18, - 8·61
Penang - -	113·57	Oct. - 33·62	Feb. - 0·47	June 8, - 9·25
Province Wellesley.	88·47	Oct. - 25·04	Feb. - 0·20	June 8, - 5·75
Dindings - -	85·19	Oct. - 24·02	Mar. - 1·70	April 13, 4·46
Malacca - -	71·37	Aug. - 24·10	Feb. - 0·12	Aug. 28. - 10·60

POLICE AND CRIME.

45. A reduction of two European sergeants, and one native corporal and 14 constables, was made in the strength of the force in Malacca, and further reductions will be made in 1894. There is but little crime in that Settlement.

One hundred and seventy-two (172) men were dismissed from the force for police offences, and 83 were charged before the

magistrates. This shows an improvement as compared with 1892.

Nineteen thousand five hundred and eighty-four (19,584) cases were arrested during the year, as against 24,387 in 1892. Fourteen thousand six hundred and eighty-eight (14,688) offences were reported to the police, as against 13,858 in 1892, of which 3,555 remained undiscovered.

Eleven (11) cases of murder and six of gang robbery (five of which occurred in Penang) were reported during the year.

The Colony has been free from serious disturbances.

PRISONS.

46. The health of the prisoners in the three Settlements was good during the year, although the death-rate at Singapore was rather heavy during the very wet weather towards the end of the year. The number of deaths was, at Singapore 44, and at Penang six, while at Malacca there were none. Three suicides occurred in the Penang Prison, and two convicts escaped, one of whom was re-captured. There was one execution at Penang in June. The Inspector of Prisons, in his annual report, speaking of the Singapore Prison, where all prisoners sentenced to more than six months' imprisonment are sent, reports as follows :—

"There has been no suicide, no serious assault, no escape during "the year, the daily average of prisoners decreased considerably "towards the close of the year, and offences are fewer in pro-"portion to the number in prison.'

The number of prisoners in the Singapore Prison on the 31st December, 1893, was 897.

REGISTRATION OF SOCIETIES.

47. The Protector of Chinese reports that no disturbance occurred during the year that could be ascribed to the influence of Chinese Secret Societies. The time has now arrived when the success of the new policy with respect to these associations, inaugurated by Ordinance I. of 1889, may be regarded as assured. In all, 208 societies of various kinds have been registered, and 146 exempted from registration, since the introduction of the Ordinance. Twenty-two Chinese were deported during the year under the power vested in the Governor in Council, as against 44 in 1892.

RAILWAYS.

48. Owing to the small area of the three Settlements and their geographical position along the shores of the Straits of Malacca, the necessity of railways has not hitherto been felt, and, with the exception of a few miles of tramway in Singapore and Penang, nothing has yet been done in this direction, although considerable progress has been made in the Protected States of the West Coast,

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS. 1893.

the principal industrial and mining centres in Perak, Selangor, and Sungei Ujong being all connected by rail with the coast. During 1892 a scheme was set on foot for a railway across the peninsula passing through Siamese territory to connect Senggora with Kedah and with Prye (in Province Wellesley). The surveys for this undertaking were proceeded with in the year under review. A plan was also mooted, not for the first time, for a railway across Singapore Island connecting the city with a point opposite the chief town of Johor State. The motive power to be employed was in this case electricity, but the undertaking fell through, owing to insufficient support. Towards the end of the year a concession was applied for by Messrs. Grassi Brothers, of Bangkok, for a railway through Malacca territory. It is claimed by the promoters that the building of this line will give an impetus to the opening up of the country behind Malacca for tapioca and other cultivation. The export of tapioca from Malacca in 1893 amounted to 232,833 pikuls, all of which is at present conveyed to the coast on bullock-carts. It has since been suggested to continue the line as far as Kuala Pilah, the head-quarters of the British Resident of the Negri Sembilan. The above-mentioned schemes, it should be mentioned, are all of them private enterprises.

MISCELLANEOUS.

49. Sir Cecil Clementi Smith, G.C.M.G., appointed Governor in 1887, left the Colony in August, 1893. His successor, Sir C. B. H. Mitchell, K.C.M.G., did not assume his duties until after the conclusion of the year. In the interim, the Government was administered by the Honourable W. E. Maxwell, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary.

50. As the matter was much under discussion during the earlier part of the year, something may here be said as to the relations of the two most important of the Settlements. First united in 1826 under one administration, Penang, Singapore and Malacca have, since 1867, constituted the Colony of the Straits Settlements, with the seat of Government in Singapore. Although the great development of the resources of Perak and North Sumatra has of late years brought increasing prosperity to the northern settlement, Singapore, owing to its greater facilities for working cargo and also to its more advantageous situation on the great trade route to the Far East, has begun to draw to itself the trade in certain commodities, such as tin and tobacco, which formerly passed for the most part through Penang. When, in 1892, an ambitious scheme for providing Penang with wharves failed to command Government support, in consequence of the large expenditure which it would have required to carry it out, a murmur arose in that Settlement that Singapore engrossed more than her fair share of the expenditure of the Colonial Government. The discontent culminated early in 1893 in a motion in the Legislative Council for a Royal Commission to enquire into the distribution of the revenues of the Colony, which was, however, rejected. In

connection therewith, a number of real or supposed grievances were also ventilated, but when the chief ground of complaint had been proved by a reference to statistics to be without foundation, the agitation, to which some of the Penang Chinese had somewhat blindly given their support, rapidly died away.

51. In conclusion, a few remarks as to the position and prospects of Malacca may not be out of place. The revenue for the year amounted to $283,938, and the expenditure to $368,028. The corresponding figures for 1892 were $294,477, and $454,647. Once a great trade centre, the town has become, in a commercial sense, a mere suburb of Singapore. The Settlement, however, includes a stretch of rich and fertile country inhabited by Malay peasantry, unfortunately by nature wanting in industry. The chief source of revenue is the cultivation of tapioca, in which a considerable amount of Chinese capital is invested. The Acting Resident Councillor concludes his report in these words:—

"From a Malay agricultural population it is vain to look for a large revenue. Much can, no doubt, be done by encouraging Chinese to take up land, especially as permanent cultivators, but an equilibrium between revenue and expenditure can at present only be effected by cutting down expenditure of the Police, Public Works Department, and other great spending branches of the service.

"It is unfair to compare Malacca with one of the Protected Native States, whose revenue, derived from the tin industry, increases by leaps and bounds. Time was when the greater part of the mineral wealth of the Peninsula found its way to Malacca. She has passed through the 'tin age' and now remains a favourable example of a prosperous agricultural district, where crime is almost unknown and the people are happy and contented."

(Signed) WILLIAM MAXWELL,
Colonial Secretary.

Singapore, September 1, 1894.

No. 117.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1893.

(For Report for 1892 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 78.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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1895.

[C.—7629.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
80	Gambia	1892
81	Straits Settlements	,,
82	Grenada	,,
83	Barbados	,,
84	St. Vincent	,,
85	Hong Kong	,,
86	St. Lucia	,,
87	Falkland Islands	,,
88	Gold Coast	,,
89	Basutoland	1892–93
90	Ceylon	1892
91	Zululand	,,
92	Mauritius	,,
93	Labuan	,,
94	British Honduras	,,
95	Lagos	,,
96	Sierra Leone	,,
97	Fiji	,,
98	Rodrigues	,,
99	St. Helena	,,
100	British Bechuanaland	1892–93
101	British Guiana	,,
102	Newfoundland	1892
103	Jamaica	1892–93
104	Victoria	1892
105	Bermuda	1893
106	Gambia	,,
107	Hong Kong	,,
108	St. Vincent	,,
109	Gibraltar	,,
110	Bahamas	,,
111	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
112	Leeward Islands	,,
113	Barbados	,,
114	Malta	,,
115	Zululand	,,
116	British Honduras	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 117.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

(For Report for 1892, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 78.)

Sir F. NAPIER BROOME to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House, Port-of-Spain,

MY LORD, July 11, 1894.

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Trinidad and Tobago Blue Book for 1893, and to make the following Annual Report upon the Colony for that year.

TRINIDAD.

Taxes and Duties.

2. There was no change during 1893 in the Taxes and Duties levied. The Washington Agreement remains in force, with its large customs exemptions in favour of United States produce, and the supposed counterbalancing advantage of free admission of our sugar to the Union. The uncertainty of Congressional action on the Tariff Bill render the duration and result of this Agreement very problematical.

Revenue and Expenditure.

3. The income of the Government was 549,398*l.*, the expenditure, 530,348*l.*, showing a surplus of 19,050*l.* In 1892, there was also a surplus of 9,794*l.* The three previous years showed a deficit. The finances are in a sound condition, but require very careful management.

Public Debt.

4. On the 31st of December last, the Trinidad Debt stood at 588,850*l.*, taking credit for Sinking Fund. During 1893, I obtained your Lordship's sanction to a further Public Works Loan of 400,000*l.*, of which 250,000*l.* is to be expended on railway extension, and the balance on Port-of-Spain harbour improvement, waterworks, some much needed sanitary undertakings, and a new lunatic asylum costing not less than 40,000*l.*

Legislation.

5. The Legislation of 1893 amounted to 33 Ordinances. Of these, however, only two need be noticed here, namely, "The Sale of Produce Ordinance, 1893," and "The Land Charges and Land Taxes Ordinance, 1893." The first-named measure is an attempt to check the theft of cocoa, sugar cane, "provisions," and other produce. This had so increased throughout the Island that the agriculture and production of the small, as well as the large, cultivator was greatly interfered with, and, in the former case, often annihilated. The effect has been excellent. The large owner's cocoa plantation and the peasant proprietor's little garden of "provisions," are now secure. The other important law of 1893 changes materially the system of collecting the Land and House Taxes of the Colony, which amount to about 34,000*l.* a year. Under a cumbrous and dilatory procedure, arrears formerly increased and multiplied to such an extent that there was no dealing with them. Large accumulative fines were imposed, which the debtor could not pay; thousands of properties were brought under a forfeiture which could hardly be given effect to, and the matter had really become very serious. The new law imposes only one fine of 25 per cent. followed at a short interval by prompt forfeiture in case of non-payment. It is working very well so far, and will, I believe, be as much of a success in its way as "The Sale of Produce Ordinance."

Official Changes.

6. The chief official changes of the year were my own absence on leave from May to October, when the Colonial Secretary (the Hon. Henry Fowler) administered the Government. Mr. Fowler, I regret to say, died in November, and Mr. C. C. Knollys, C.M.G., has since been appointed Colonial Secretary. Mr. G. L. Garcia, Q.C., was appointed Attorney-General in January, as was also Mr. Vincent Brown to be Solicitor-General.

Pensions.

7. The Pension List, which amounted on the 31st of December last to the heavy total of 11,452*l.*, was increased by 1,278*l.* during 1893, and diminished through deaths by 779*l.*

Population and Vital Statistics.

8. On the 31st of December the total population was estimated at 220,285, an increase of 5,789, during the year. The births were 37·8 and the deaths 29·9 per 1,000, the rates for 1892 having been 33.80 and 25·01. In 1893, there were more deaths, but more births, the compensated balance of nature asserting itself. I notice in the newspapers of last mail that the June death-rates at Liverpool and Wolverhampton were 25·4 and 30 per 1,000. The

"deadly tropics" are not, therefore, always so deadly as the temperate zone.

Ecclesiastical.

9. Trinidad possesses a Protestant Cathedral and 16 parish churches, a Roman Catholic Cathedral and 31 parish churches, and 93 other places of worship, with accommodation for 37,000 persons.

Education.

10. The Government and Undenominational Queen's Royal College possessed 79 pupils, whereas 174 scholars were taught at the Roman Catholic College of St. Mary's, the death of the esteemed principal of which, the Revd. Father Lemire, has been a severe loss. A further calamity has also deprived us of Mr. William Miles, B.A., Oxon., the able head master of the Royal College, who died lately while on leave in England. At the Primary Government and Assisted Schools (173 in number) the average attendance was 12,027, as against 169 schools and 10,992 scholars for 1892. The Government spent 27,541*l.* on Primary Education in 1893. The cost on the average attendance of a Government scholar was 2*l* 5*s.* 11*d.*, of a Denominational Assisted-school pupil 1*l.* 13*s.* 11*d.* The Industrial Schools (2) and the Reformatories (2) are satisfactorily reported upon. The Church of England Reformatory building at Diego Martin was in course of being rebuilt after being burned to the ground. It was fortunately well insured. The Industrial Schools contained 181 boys and girls. The Reformatories 141 boys and girls.

Imports and Exports.

11. The Imports and Exports in 1893 and the previous five years were as follows:—

Year.	Imports.		Exports.	
	Total Value.	Value, exclusive of Bullion and Specie.	Total Value.	Value, exclusive of Bullion and Specie.
	£	£	£	£
1888 - - -	1,943,789	1,678,972	2,132,761	1,904,192
1889 - - -	2,093,932	1,679,944	2,308,832	1,856,651
1890 - - -	2,248,893	1,831,803	2,179,432	1,765,931
1891 - - -	2,096,797	1,793,535	2,058,761	1,716,851
1892 - - -	2,089,380	1,861,027	2,258,063	2,005,277
1893 - - -	2,270,885	1,987,071	2,320,824	1,941,171

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. 1893.

The total Trade for 1893 was 3,928,242*l.* exclusive of Bullion and Specie. The Imports exceeded the Exports by 45,900*l.*, and show an excess of 126,044*l.*, or 6·77 per cent. upon 1892, due to the new practice of adding an estimated percentage for charges to invoice values. *Exports*, excluding bullion and specie, were 64,106*l.*, or 3·2 per cent. less than in 1892. Owing to a less abundant crop, the export of cocoa decreased by 23·70 per cent. Our good friend the Pitch Lake was less bountiful than in 1892, and the export of asphalt fell off by 19·62 per cent., owing to the financial troubles in the United States restricting the demand. The export of sugar was 8·53 per cent. less than in 1892. The detailed statistics follow.

The trade with the United Kingdom, British Colonies, and Foreign Countries was :—

—	Imports.			Exports.			
	Goods liable to Duty.	All other Foreign Goods.	Total.	Produce of the Colony.	Foreign Goods liable to Duty.	All other Foreign Goods.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom -	73,948	800,458	874,406	558,863	3,856	301,583	864,302
British Colonies. -	4,965	239,471	244,436	14,291	6,747	34,031	55,069
Foreign Countries -	90,082	1,061,961	1,152,043	943,198	140,960	317,295	1,401,453
Total - -	168,995	2,101,890	2,270,885	1,516,352	151,563	652,909	2,320,824

The following return gives the variation of trade in 1893 as compared with 1892 :—

Imports.

Countries.	Transit Imports.		Direct Imports.		Total Imports.	
	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom -	39,708	—	75,577	—	115,285	—
British Colonies -	1,093	—	—	13,327	—	12,234
United States of America.	13,547	—	—	4,575	8,972	—
France - -	523	—	6,391	—	6,914	—
Venezuela -	11,328	—	—	37,203	—	25,875
All other Countries-	—	1,112	34,094	—	32,982	—
Total - -	66,199	1,112	116,062	55,105	164,153	38,109
Net increase or decrease - -	65,087	—	60,957	—	126,044	—

Exports.

Countries.	Transit Exports.		Exports of Native Products.		Re-exports.		Total Exports.	
	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom - -	460	—	31,855	—	—	2,532	29,783	—
British Colonies - -	2,037	—	—	6,745	3,323	—	3,615	—
United States of America -	5,488	—	—	74,139	—	52,630	—	121,281
France - - - -	1,120	—	—	3,286	1,750	—	—	416
Venezuela - - -	56,110	—	1,294	—	—	10,910	46,494	—
All other Countries -	—	470	—	21,735	—	96	—	22,301
Total -	65,215	470	33,149	105,905	10,073	66,168	79,892	143,998
Net increase or decrease -	64,745	—	—	72,756	—	56,095	—	64,106

Exports to Venezuela, a most valuable and important customer of Trinidad, from 1879 to 1893, exclusive of bullion and specie, were as follows. This trade has still to contend with a 30 per cent. differential duty.

Year.	Transit Exports.	Direct Exports.	Total Exports.
	£	£	£
1879 - - -	96,557	122,426	218,983
1880 - - -	110,158	104,513	214,671
1881 - - -	130,962	121,724	252,686
1882 - - -	76,997	98,796	175,793
1883 - - -	65,080	72,566	187,646
1884 - - -	74,655	102,145	176,800
1885 - - -	69,079	62,252	131,331
1886 - - -	69,451	37,670	107,121
1887 - - -	107,792	33,816	141,608
1888 - - -	115,926	38,558	154,484
1889 - - -	130,838	55,819	186,657
1890 - - -	101,385	73,363	174,748
1891 - - -	123,067	94,800	217,867
1892 - - -	73,917	120,769	194,686
1893 - - -	130,027	130,395	260,422

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. 1893.

The Government Statist (Mr. H. J. Clark) writes:—"*Imports.* "—While the value of *transit* imports from Venezuela in 1893 "exceeded that in 1892 by 11,328*l.*, or 136·24 per cent., the value "of *direct* imports was less by 37,203*l.*, or 16·93 per cent., showing "a net decline in the value of imports from that country of 25,875*l.*, "or 11·35 per cent. The increase in transit imports was chiefly "in goods manufactured, unenumerated, while the decline in the "value of direct imports was almost entirely due to decreased "imports of vegetable products.

"*Exports.*—Transit exports to Venezuela show an increase of "56,110*l.* or 75·91 per cent., the item 'Textiles' contributing "41,017*l.* of that increase—thus showing that the *transit* 'Dry "Goods' trade, the value of which fell from 69,208*l.* in 1891 to "29,471*l.* in 1892, has again assumed its former proportions. In "view of this large increase, it is encouraging to note that the "decrease in the direct 'Dry Goods' trade has been comparatively "trifling, the value of direct export of 'Textiles' having been "53,946*l.* as against 56,792*l.* in 1892."

The following Return shows the quantities of the staples exported in the last ten years:—

Years.	Sugar.	Molasses.	Rum.	Cocoa.
	Lbs.	Galls.	Galls.	Lbs.
1884	136,552,804	2,245,650	43,581	12,098,770
1885	142,641,411	2,416,761	72,525	13,729,565
1886	108,523,940	2,220,288	16,181	17,913,037
1887	149,800,919	2,542,225	35,571	11,927,067
1888	122,491,220	1,948,569	97,974	21,352,312
1889	112,368,762	2,234,724	20,015	15,335,228
1890	115,239,227	2,024,884	20,469	21,552,593
1891	101,601,371	1,538,415	15,386	16,188,493
1892	110,582,080	1,895,773	3,820	25,041,635
1893	101,140,361	1,250,968	82,110	19,106,553

(*continued.*)

Year.	Coffee.	Asphalt.	Cocoanuts.	Bitters and Liquors.
	Lbs.	Tons.	No.	Galls.
1884	14,960	39,945	11,276,339	32,381
1885	20,270	35,236	9,645,700	32,240
1886	20,052	35,671	9,013,200	35,355
1887	8,380	43,099	7,365,295	35,143
1888	4,480	52,028	12,366,592	42,830
1889	29,774	78,124	11,495,471	43,692
1890	12,597	78,841	12,739,904	43,266
1891	8,325	95,990	14,334,054	35,764
1892	20,842	112,224	13,922,171	42,557
1893	20,471	90,204	11,965,969	38,848

The sugar crops of the last six years (1888–1893) have been :—

Description.	1888.		1889.		1890.	
	Hhds.	Per cent.	Hhds.	Per cent.	Hhds.	Per cent.
V. Pan - -	30,906	43·62	29,865	44·73	33,809	49·35
Centrifugal - -	10,245	14·46	9,775	14·64	12,362	18·04
Muscovado - -	29,703	41·92	27,122	40·63	22,345	32·61
Total - -	70,854	—	66,762	—	68,516	—

(*continued.*)

Description.	1891.		1892.		1893.	
	Hhds.	Per cent.	Hhds.	Per cent.	Hhds.	Per cent.
V. Pan - - -	31,061	50·91	39,283	60·22	41,364	67·72
Centrifugal - -	9,881	16·20	12,402	19·01	8,423	13·79
Muscovado - -	20,064	32·89	13,549	20·77	11,293	18·49
Total - -	61,006	—	65,234	—	61,080	—

The Government statist remarks on this return that there are two points in connexion with it that are worthy of note, viz. :—

1. "That although the total output of 1893 was about 3,200 tons less than that of 1892, the decrease was entirely confined to open-pan sugar, the output of vacuum pan in 1893 having been in excess of that of 1892.
2. "That the annual increase in the output of vacuum pan sugar has been steadily maintained. In 1888 the output of this class of sugar did not reach 25,000 tons, and formed only 43 per cent. of the total; in 1893 it exceeded 33,000 tons, and formed 66 per cent. of the total."

The days of "muscovado" and the simpler processes of the sugar industry are over, for, as prices stand, they can only involve loss. But, given large capital, the best and most improved machinery, and the central usine, sugar-making is still a sure source of substantial profit, even in the West Indies.

Cacao.—The following table gives the average exports for the two last quinquennial periods :—

Countries.	Average annual Export five years, 1884–1888.	Average annual Export five years, 1889–1893.	Increase.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
United Kingdom -	7,729,761	7,730,101	340
France - - -	4,491,715	6,682,696	2,190,981
United States of America	2,325,081	4,891,591	2,566,510
Other Countries - -	118,529	453,522	334,993

Shipping.

12. The shipping entered and cleared amounted to 1,269,119 tons, or 8,393 tons more than in 1892.

The respective tonnage of the steam and sailing vessels which entered and cleared was as follows :—

1893.

	British.	French.	United States.	Dutch.	Venezuela.	Other Countries.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Sailing - -	80,324	10,133	84,623	6,917	20,767	75,749
Steam - -	707,419	165,502	8,100	71,970	37,615	—
Total -	787,743	175,635	92,723	78,887	58,382	75,749

There was an increase, in 1892 of 23 British sailing vessels and of 11 steamers. Of foreign sailing vessels, there was a decrease of 305, and an increase of four steamers.

Crown Lands

13. The alienation of land amounted to 7,222 acres, and 47 lots. At the end of the year, 419,876 acres had been alienated, and the remaining Crown Lands amounted to 700,124 acres. The area of Trinidad is 1,754 square miles. A new code of Land Regulations was approved, and has since been proclaimed. Rural land is now sold at the fixed price of 1*l.* an acre, instead of by auction, as formerly.

Criminal Statistics.

14. There was an increase of reported offences in 1893, as compared with 1893, from 15,043 to 16,831. There was an

average of 549 prisoners in the gaols. A considerable expenditure is being incurred in improving the prison accommodation.

East Indian Population.

15. The East Indian immigrant population was increased during 1893 by the introduction of 1,818 statute adults, at a cost of 28,887*l.* The report of Dr. Comins, the officer directed by the Government of India to inquire into the condition of the coolies, was received, and was most favourable to Trinidad. Dr. Comins writes: "In this Colony, Indian coolies have already very "exceptional advantages, and a still brighter future is before them. "Of all the Colonies of the West Indies, Trinidad is the favoured "home of the coolie settler, where he can easily and rapidly "attain comfortable independence, and even considerable wealth "with corresponding social position."

Pitch Lake Litigation.

16. The litigation connected with the Pitch Lake, in which the Government has been so much engaged, proceeded in the courts of the Colony and before the Privy Council. The rights and contentions of the Crown have at last been satisfactorily vindicated and secured.

Legislative Council.

17. A movement for a change in the constitution of the Legislative Council of this Crown Colony, by the introduction of a representative element, resulted in a petition considered by your Lordship; and you have referred the matter back for discussion in the Legislature, before which it will shortly come, and to which four members favourable to "the Reform movement" have been recently appointed.

War Office Lands.

18. Your Lordship having permitted me personally to approach the Chancellor of the Exchequer (Sir William Harcourt) during my leave of absence in London, I was fortunate enough to persuade Her Majesty's Treasury to withdraw a claim for 36,000*l.* against the Colony in respect of War Office Lands and Buildings.

Inquiry into audit of Accounts, &c.

19. An important inquiry into the Audit System and the Accounts of the Colony was completed, an Ordinance on the subject was passed, and a code of new Financial Rules (abolishing the pre-audit) is now in force. At the beginning of the year, a Magistrate in charge of a Savings Bank absconded, having

embezzled between 3,000*l.* and 4,000*l.* of public money. This led to a more careful regulation of the Savings Banks, which had been insufficiently controlled. In November and December, the Auditor-General (the Hon'ble D. B. Horsford) acting under my special orders, discovered grave irregularities in the Railway Accounts. A Commission of Enquiry was appointed and has reported. This will be noticed in the next Annual Report.

Chicago World's Fair.

20. The Trinidad exhibits at the Chicago World's Fair attracted a good deal of attention. The Colony was represented by an able Commissioner (Mr. H. Vincent) who presented a very interesting Report.

New Gulf Steamers.

21. Two handsome little steamers, built for this Government by Messrs. White of Cowes, and costing 15,000*l.*, took up the island coasting trade in the Gulf of Paria in June.

Aid of Mauritius by Martinique.

22. I received in February a cheque for 100*l.* from his Excellency the Governor of Martinique, as a subscription from that French Colony towards the sufferers from the Mauritius hurricane. I think this deserves to be recorded.

Prosperity of Trinidad.

23. The barometer of prosperity was not so high in this island during 1893 as during 1892. But it remained at "steady," which is some degrees above that of most countries in these hard and perplexed times.

Tobago.

24. I annex the Report of the Commissioner of Tobago (the Hon'ble William Low). on the Returns of that island, which has not retrograded during 1893, but to which I wish, with all my heart, a larger share of this world's good things than it at present possesses. It deserves them, for it is healthy, beautiful, and fertile. It wants the capitalist; and why, if the capitalist wants good interest on his money, he does not embark in the ridiculously cheap investments of Tobago, I do not know.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. NAPIER BROOME.

TOBAGO.

Annual Report for 1893.

Sources of Revenue.

In addition to the Customs duties, the Land and House tax yields a fair proportion of the small Revenue of the Island. The Land tax itself, *five pence per acre*, is the smallest in the West Indies. It is to be hoped that as soon as persons with capital to invest learn this fact they will avail themselves of this and other undoubted advantages offered by this beautiful and healthy Island for a safe investment. The tax yielded, in 1893, 523*l.* 11*s.* 4*d.* more than in 1892: this was the result of a firm collection of arrears, many persons having been allowed to remain in default for two or three years.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The year 1893 opened with a balance of 342*l.* 15*s.* 4*d.*

The Revenue was 9,211*l.* 4*s.* 3*d.* The Expenditure was 8,537*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.* The Revenue of 1892 was 7,458*l.* 11*s.* 0*d.*; the Expenditure 9,009*l.* 11*s.* 7*d.*

Assets and Liabilities.

The total of the Island's liabilities, excluding the Public Debt, at the close of 1893, was 1,715*l.* 14*s.* 11*d.*

Public Debt.

This amounts to 5,000*l.*, due to Trinidad for money lent.

Roads.

The sum voted for this service was insufficient even to completely remove the bushes which in some places almost obliterated the roads; but in most instances the naturally good stuff of which the roads are made, with the exceptionally easy gradients of the roads themselves, prevented so great a break up by the heavy tropical rains of the "wet season," as would have resulted in most of the other West India Islands. With an experience of a great many of the other West India Colonies, it is

quite safe to say that few, if any, have such perfectly traced roads; and fewer could so inexpensively maintain theirs if once they were put in good order. "Tufa" abounds and, if the road is well rounded and drained, is a fair enough substitute for macadam. The road system of the past has been costly, with absolutely no result, and unfortunately at present funds are not available for more than patching.

Regulations.

During 1893, the Financial Board passed eleven Regulations.

The amending Land and House Tax Regulation is an important measure and has already proved the necessity which existed for its being placed on the Statute Book.

Civil Establishment.

During the year the Commissioner obtained four months' leave of absence and Mr. H. H. Sealy, the Auditor, acted for him.

The office of Inspector of Police, a sinecure, in view of the small number of police constables, was abolished and a saving of 280*l.* effected.

Education.

One school was added to the list in 1893. There were altogether twenty-one schools assisted by Government, and the daily average attendance of scholars was 1,618.

There were five unaided schools also doing good work; but unfortunately no State aid could be given to them.

Vital Statistics.

The population on 1st January, 1893, was estimated at 19,534. During the year 694 births were recorded against 466 deaths, leaving the total estimated population, including immigration and emigration, on 31st December, 1893, at 19,885.

The following remarks by the Chief Medical Officer will show how little a European who is prepared to live steadily and not to indulge in imprudences has to dread from a residence here:—

"A residence of twelve years in Tobago has amply confirmed the opinion which I formed on first coming to the Island, viz.: that is one of the healthiest places to be found within the tropics. Its average death-rate for the past sixteen years has been 21·5. Of the total deaths during the past ten years, the mortality of children under five years has been 41·00 per cent., a considerable rate but not excessive when the high illegitimate birth-rate, the

neglect by parents, the prevalence of inherited disease and the poverty of many of the people are taken into account.

"The equable temperature has proved very beneficial to the cases of imported phthisis and rheumatism which I have seen, and its suitability to Europeans is undeniable. Several of us who have lived here for lengthy periods will compare very favourably with residents in what are supposed to be more healthy climates.

"I shall close with one instance of Tobago's healthiness. Five years ago I examined in one week twenty-five men of all varieties of colour for life assurance. I gave in each case a First-class A Life. Every one of these men is now in good health, and no one has been even seriously ill during these years with one exception, and that was a case of dysentery. This case made a perfect recovery. Not many countries can boast as good a record."

Imports and Exports.

The total value of Imports into this Island, or rather of goods reported at the Customs House here, was 17,862*l.* 19*s.* 2*d.* as against 15,838*l.* in 1892, or an increase of over 2,000*l.*

The Exports, 15,675*l.*, exceeded the exports of 1892 (13,743*l.*) by 1,932*l.*

These figures are not to be accepted as representing the true amount of actual imports and exports.

A considerable number of ponies, cattle, and poultry of all kinds, and large quantities of vegetables, &c. are taken over to Trinidad and sold there. Trinidad and Tobago being one for Customs purposes under the Order of Council uniting them into one Colony, these animals, &c. are not treated as Exports. The money realised by their sale in Trinidad is expended there in purchasing clothes, spirits, tobacco, and all other similar articles on which no duty can be collected on their arrival here. Hence it is, at a glance, apparent that the figures above given do not represent actual facts.

Gaols and Prisoners.

In the year under review 99 persons were committed.

The health of the prison may be judged of by the fact that there was only one death—which was due to natural causes—that of a lunatic who was temporarily detained there.

Agriculture.

A very small proportion of the Island is cultivated.

The total area in square miles is 114, giving an estimated acreage of 73,313 acres. Of this, about 6,500 acres only are in cultivation of various kinds, including the "provision grounds" of the labourers. Portions of lands purchased by the peasants from the Crown are being planted in cocoa, and one or two small properties

this valuable plant is being solely cultivated. Every endeavour is being used by the local authorities in Tobago to induce the inhabitants to extend the cultivation of cocoa, as on this and coffee the future welfare of the Island will principally depend.

Sugar cane cultivation is very popular with the labourers, and is principally worked here on what is known as the "Metairie System." The labourers plant and cultivate the land, and the owner of the estate manufactures the crop, each then taking half of the produce. This mode of cultivation has been in force for half a century, and there is no doubt that it is a very excellent plan under the present circumstances of the Island.

The output of sugar at one time was very considerable. In the year 1828, as many as 6,857 tons were exported with 5,047 puncheons of rum and 2,000 puncheons of molasses. The value of these three articles alone, even at present day prices, would be 100,000*l.*

Cocoanuts abound here and are largely used locally, in addition to which more than half a million are annually exported. With more scientific treatment, the output and quality would be considerably increased.

Portions of the Island are peculiarly well adapted for the cultivation of cotton, the product of which at one time formed an important and very valuable export, as will be seen from the following extract from the history of the Island by the late Chief Justice Woodcock:—

The cotton produced in Tobago was of the most superior quality known in the trade. We are told in the "Encyclopædia Britannica" (edition of 1854), under the title of "Cotton Manufacture," that in the year 1792 Mr. Jonathan Pollard of Manchester succeeded in spinning yarn upon the mule of the fineness of 278 hanks to the pound, from cotton wool grown by Mr. Robley in the Island of Tobago. This yarn was sold at twenty guineas per pound to the muslin manufacturers at Glasgow.

Crown Lands.

It is estimated that there are about 12,000 acres of land belonging to the Crown. A simpler scheme of attracting purchasers for large portions of these fertile lands is now under consideration of the Government. It is intended to offer blocks at a very small figure, provided the purchaser will guarantee to cultivate annually a certain portion of his purchase in economic plants.

The lands abound in various kinds of valuable timber and other woods for making furniture, such as red cedar, mahogany, yellow sanders, &c., &c. They are especially adapted for the cultivation of cocoa, coffee and spices, &c., and being nearly all "virgin forest," would yield in four or five years a larger return, with far less trouble and expense, than the worn-out lands already established. The hardwood, the quality of which is not surpassed by that of

any Island in the West Indies, would repay the cost of clearing the land and leave a margin of profit besides.

It is most disheartening to think that these magnificent lands do not attract English capitalists, while, despite the frequent warnings of past experience, investors still rush to sink their money in Argentine bonds and other high-sounding and risky speculations.

There can be small doubt that a capital of 50,000*l.* or more, worked with prudence and energy, would convert this place into as remunerative an investment as is to be found anywhere.

General.

The general outlook is somewhat brighter than during the past year. The peasantry are settling down to steadier habits, as is evinced by the considerably increased area being put under cane cultivation, and by other signs more easily observed than recorded, Several applications have also been received from persons resident in other Islands—notably Grenada—with respect to Crown Lands, and every information possible is afforded to them; but until the Regulations which have been prepared as suitable to the requirements of Tobago come into force little can be definitely settled. With economy, the introduction of a little capital, the opening up of roads through the Crown Lands, and the disposal of these lands on easy terms, there is no conceivable reason why this beautiful and healthy Island should not become as valuable as any in the Caribbean Sea.

WM. LOW,
Commissioner.

Tobago, West Indies,
March 20, 1894.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 145.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1894.

(For Report for 1893, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 117.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1895.

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1895.

[C.—7847.–6.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
112	Leeward Islands	1893
113	Barbados	,,
114	Malta	,,
115	Zululand	,,
116	British Honduras	,,
117	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
118	Falkland Islands	,,
119	Rodrigues	,,
120	Mauritius	,,
121	Straits Settlements	,,
122	Labuan	,,
123	Basutoland	1893–94
124	St. Lucia	1893
125	St. Helena	,,
126	Ceylon	,,
127	Fiji	,,
128	Grenada	,,
129	Sierra Leone	,,
130	British Bechuanaland	1893–94
131	British New Guinea	1892–3 1893–4
132	Lagos	1893
133	British Guiana	1893–4
134	Jamaica	,,
135	Newfoundland	1893
136	Gold Coast	,,
137	Zululand	1894
138	Bermuda	,,
139	Bahamas	,,
140	Barbados	,,
141	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
142	Malta	,,
143	Gambia	,,
144	Windward Islands	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.

No. 145.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

[For Report for 1893, *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No 117.]

Sir F. NAPIER BROOME to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House,
May 30, 1895.

MY LORD MARQUESS,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Trinidad and Tobago Blue Book for 1894, and to make the following Annual Report upon the Colony for that year. In the preparation of this report I have been aided by the Colonial Secretary, the Hon. C. C. Knollys, C.M.G.

TRINIDAD.

Taxes and Duties.

2. The Legislative Council, after investigating the prevailing agricultural depression, more especially in the sugar industry, proposed in December to assist the planters by reducing the land tax and transferring to general revenue the major part of the cost of East Indian immigration. The expense entailed necessitated increased customs duties to the amount of 43,760*l.* per annum. An ordinance, altering the tariff accordingly, was passed. This scheme for the relief of the planters was, however, only partially approved by your Lordship. A further amendment of the tariff was therefore necessary, and Ordinance, No. 18, of 1895, became law on the 6th of May. Though not within the year under review, it is convenient to refer to this later tariff ordinance, which also abrogated changes made in 1892, following on the Washington agreement of 1891. The "McKinley Tariff" had not afforded the expected advantages to the sugar trade. Public opinion was unanimous in desiring its repeal.

3. The following table shows the differences between the import duties levied under Ordinance, No. 3, of 1892, "the

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. 1894.

McKinley Tariff," and under the now existing Ordinance, No. 18, of 1895.

Customs Duties on Imports.

Articles.	Rate under Ordinance No. 3 of 1892.	Rate under Ordinance No. 18 of 1895.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Bread—all kinds, the barrel	0 0 9	0 1 0
Boots and shoes, for every 100*l.*	2 0 0	5 0 0
Bricks, the 1,000	—	0 3 0
Butter, ghee, &c.	0 0 1	0 0 1
Carriages on springs, 4 wheels	7 0 0	7 0 0
„ „ 2 „	4 0 0	4 0 0
Cheese, the pound	0 0 0½	0 0 1
Cement, the barrel	Free	0 0 6
Cocoanuts, the 1,000	Free	0 10 0
Coal and coke, the ton	0 2 0	Free
Corn—all kinds, including oats, the bushel	0 0 3¾	0 0 4
Dogs, each	0 10 0	0 10 0
Fireworks, the pound	Free	0 1 3
Flour, the barrel, 196 lbs.	0 3 1½	0 3 4
Gunpowder, the pound	0 0 7	0 0 7
Earthen and glassware, every 100*l.*	6 0 0	5 0 0
Furniture, every 100*l.*	6 0 0	5 0 0
Lard and its compounds, 100 lbs.	0 1 6	0 4 2
Liquors, viz.:—		
Malt—in wood, the gallon	0 0 7½	0 0 10
„ in bottles, the dozen reputed quart bottles	0 1 3	0 1 6
Methylated spirits, gallon	0 1 6	0 1 6
All other spirits, strong waters, &c., the gallon	0 10 0	0 10 6
Wines in bottle:—		
Sparkling wines, the gallon	0 6 0	0 6 0
All other wines—42 degrees, the gallon	0 2 6	0 3 3
Wines in wood—23 degrees, the gallon	0 0 10	0 1 3
„ „ 32 degrees, the gallon	0 1 3	0 1 9
„ „ 42 degrees, the gallon	0 2 6	0 3 3
Matches—lucifer, the gross of boxes	0 2 6	0 2 6
Match splints, the case of 10 gross of matches	—	0 12 6
Meal or other flour, the barrel of 196 lbs.	0 1 6	0 1 6
Muskets, guns, &c., each	0 5 0	0 5 0
Oil—creosote, every 100*l.* value	6 0 0	5 0 0
„ cocoanut, the gallon	0 1 0	0 1 3

Articles.	Rate under Ordinance No. 3 of 1892.	Rate under Ordinance No. 18 of 1895.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Oil, petroleum, the gallon	0 0 9	0 0 9
,, lard, the gallon	0 0 6	0 1 3
,, all others	0 1 0	0 1 3
Oleomargarine, the pound	0 0 0½	0 0 0½
Opium, the pound	0 15 0	0 15 0
Oxen, bulls and cows, each	0 10 0	0 10 0
Patent fuel, the ton	0 2 0	Free
Rice, the 100 lbs.	0 2 2	0 2 2
Slates, flagstones, and tiles, the 1,000	—	0 4 2
Soap, the 100 lbs.	0 2 1	0 2 1
Sugar, the 100 lbs.	0 10 0	0 10 0
Tea, the pound	0 0 6	0 0 6
Timber, the 1,000 feet	0 6 2	0 8 4
Shingles, the 1,000	0 1 6	0 1 6
Shooks, the bundle	0 0 3½	0 0 3½
Staves, the 1,000	0 6 0	0 6 0
Wood hoops, the 1,000	0 3 0	0 3 0
Tobacco—unmanufactured, the pound	0 1 1	0 1 3
,, cigars and cigarettes, the pound	0 5 0	0 5 0
,, all other manufactured, the pound	0 2 0	0 3 0
Textile manufactures, wearing apparel, &c., the 100*l.*	6 0 0	5 0 0
Other goods, wares, merchandize, &c., the 100*l.*	6 0 0	5 0 0

4. There are no other changes to report under the heading of taxes and duties.

Revenue and Expenditure.

	£
5. The revenue for the year 1894 amounted to	585,905
The expenditure was	537,775
showing a surplus of	£48,130

The surplus for the year 1893 was 19,050*l.* That for 1892 was 9,794*l.* The three years previous to 1892 showed a deficit.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. 1894.

6. The following table compares the revenue and expenditure of the years 1890 to 1894 :—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1890	468,559	475,244
1891	492,784	501,883
1892	563,983	554,190
1893	549,398	530,348
1894	585,905	537,775

7. The assets of the colony on the 31st December 1894, were - - - - £ 336,696

The liabilities, excluding the Public Debt, were 254,503

Showing a balance in favour of Colony of - £82,192

This credit balance of 82,192*l.* consisted of available cash in hand.

Public Debt.

8. During 1894 Debentures amounting to 12,772*l.* were paid off, leaving the Public Debt at 576,078*l.*, as follows :—

	£
Railways - - - - -	478,661
Roads, &c. - - - - -	97,417
Total - -	£576,078

The various loans forming this Debt amounted originally to 712,000*l.*, of which there has been paid off, or remains to credit in the Sinking Fund, the sum of 135,922*l.*

9. A further loan of 500,000*l.* is about to be raised. It is being expended (by means of advances from revenue) or will be expended, as follows:—

	£
Railway Extension	250,000
Works in connection with the harbour	100,000
Water works	73,000
New lunatic asylum and other buildings	60,000
Various works	17,000
Total	£500,000

It will be seen that the Government finances are in a sound and favourable condition.

Legislation.

10. During the year, 45 Ordinances were passed, of which 43 have become permanent additions to the Statute Book. Of these the most important were those to establish an agricultural society and to consolidate and amend the law respecting public roads. The former has created a very important body representing all the agricultural interests of the island, which can and ought to exercise, and I think I may say is already exercising, valuable influence in advancing agriculture. The new law as to roads gives the inhabitants of any district which desires it the opportunity of obtaining an elected local road board, with exclusive right to spend the Government grant for local roads, and power to impose a local rate in aid. This is a distinct step towards enfranchisement. Five road boards have already been established and are working well, and a sixth is in course of election.

Official Changes.

11. I was absent on leave for six weeks during 1894, during which time the Government was very satisfactorily administered by the Colonial Secretary, the Hon. C. C. Knollys, C.M.G. The following Heads of Departments were changed during the year, in consequence of deaths, retirements or promotions:—The Colonial Secretary, the Director of Public Works (twice), the Registrar of the Supreme Court, the Superintendent of Prisons, the Harbour Master, the General Manager of the Government Railway, the Head Master of Queen's College, and the Stipendiary Magistrate, Port of Spain. During the previous two years the following had been changed:—The Chief Justice, the Puisne Judges (2), the Attorney-General, the Solicitor-General, the Receiver-General, the Surgeon-General, the Registrar-General. The official world of a tropical colony is a moving panorama.

Population and Vital Statistics.

12. The estimated population of Trinidad at the end of 1893 was - - - 219,285

The number of births registered during the year was - -	7,608		
The number of deaths registered during the year was - -	5,593		
Giving a natural increase of - - -			2,015
Arrivals recorded by Harbour Master during the year:			
General - - -	14,900		
Indian Immigrants - -	2,519		
		17,419	
Departures recorded by Harbour Master during the year:			
General - - -	9,797		
Indian Immigrants - -	707		
		10,504	
Giving an increase by Immigration of - -			6,915
Total - - - - -			228,215
Deduct for leakage - - - -			1,000
Estimated population at the end of 1894 -			227,215

The above may be divided as follows:—

General population - - - - -	150,967
Indian Immigrants - - - - -	76,248
Total - - -	227,215

13. The number of births gives a birth-rate of 34·07 per 1,000. The birth-rate for England is 34·0 per 1,000. The ratio of illegitimate births was 59·34, and of still-births 5·9 per cent.

14. The death-rate was 25·05 per 1,000 as against 27·6 in 1893 and 25·5 in 1892. The death-rate of England is 20·3, of Italy 28·6, and of Spain 32·7.

The ratio of deaths of infants under one year of age was 21·5 per cent. of the total deaths. The similar return for England gives 15·9 per cent. Two deaths resulted from snake-bites, and two from the stings of scorpions. Twenty-four persons were drowned, six murders were recorded, and one case of manslaughter sixteen persons committed suicide.

Immigration.

15. The number of new immigrants introduced from India during the year was 2,519. The total number of indentured immigrants at work in the island was 34,407, while the total number of the Indian population was 76,248. The cost of the Immigration Department for the year was 58,329*l.*

16. One ship left for India taking 707 return immigrants. These deposited in the Treasury for remittance the sum of 10,863*l.* besides taking jewellery valued at 800*l.*

17. The number of creole immigrants who came as "deckers" from the neighbouring islands was 11,559. Of these about 8,459 again left the Colony after working for a longer or shorter time. These visitors of the labouring classes frequently take away with them considerable earnings.

Ecclesiastical.

18. The following table gives the places of worship of each Denomination :—

Sect.	No. of Places of Worship.	Accommodation.
Roman Catholic - - -	60	17,608
Anglican - - - -	40	10,070
Wesleyan - - - -	13	4,230
Presbyterian - - - -	8	2,225
Baptist - - - - -	22	1,089
Total - - -	143	35,222

The population of the Island, excluding Asiatics, who are principally heathens, was estimated to be 150,967.

Education.

19. The total expenditure on elementary education amounted to 27,482*l.* as follows :—

	£
Government Schools - - - -	9,501
Assisted Schools - - - -	13,737
Training Schools - - - -	1,317
Administration, &c. - - -	2,927
Total - - -	27,482

The cost to the Government of each scholar in average attendance was, in Government Schools, 2*l.* 2*s.* 7*d.*, and in Assisted Schools, 1*l.* 10*s.* 0*d.*

20. The following Table gives a summary of the attendance:—

	No. of Schools.	No. of Scholars on Roll.	Average Atendance.
Assisted Schools:			
Roman Catholic - -	55	6,577	4,174
Church of England - -	31	4,268	2,872
Presbyterian (Canadian Mission) Indian.	37	2,665	1,648
Wesleyan - - -	4	624	410
Baptist - - -	1	68	45
Total - - -	128	14,202	9,149
Government Schools - -	62	6,419	4,148
Grand Total - -	190	20,621	13,297

These are not unfavourable figures, when the large East Indian population, only very partially as yet drawn into the education system, is considered. At least the returns are more favourable than those of some other Colonies in which a good deal of educational work has been done for a long time.

Imports and Exports.

21. The following table gives the figures relating to the Imports and Exports for 1894, and the five previous years:—

Year.	Imports.		Exports.	
	Total Value.	Value, exclusive of Bullion and Specie.	Total Value.	Value, exclusive of Bullion and Specie.
	£	£	£	£
1889 - - -	2,093,932	1,679,944	2,308,832	1,856,651
1890 - - -	2,248,893	1,831,803	2,179,432	1,765,931
1891 - - -	2,096,797	1,793,535	2,058,761	1,716,851
1892 - - -	2,089,380	1,861,027	2,258,063	2,095,277
1893 - - -	2,270,885	1,987,071	2,320,824	1,941,171
1894 - - -	2,152,883	1,869,330	2,000,748	1,726,963

22. The following tables give the value and direction of trade during the years 1893 and 1894 :—

Imports.

From	1894.	1893.
	£	£
United Kingdom - - - -	835,185	874,406
British Colonies - - - -	207,070	244,436
United States of America - - -	446,387	466,354
Venezuela - - - - -	431,010	408,565
Other foreign countries - - -	233,231	277,124
Total - - - -	2,152,883	2,270,885

Exports.

To	1894.	1893.
	£	£
United Kingdom - - - -	831,700	864,302
British Colonies - - - -	54,099	55,069
United States of America - - -	558,863	753,824
Venezuela - - - - -	189,556	260,422
Other foreign countries - - -	366,530	387,207
Total - - - -	2,000,748	2,320,824

23. The class of Imports and Exports were as follows during the year 1894 :—

——	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
Live animals, food, and drink - -	950,667	1,383,444
Raw material - - - -	65,745	105,508
Manufactured articles - - -	852,918	238,011
Coin and bullion - - - -	283,553	273,785
Total - - - -	2,152,883	2,000,748

24. The following table gives the total quantities and values of the more important staples exported during the last five years:—

Year.	Sugar.		Cocoa.		Asphalt.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Lbs.	£	Lbs.	£	Tons.	£
1890 - - -	115,239,227	630,815	21,552,593	531,025	78,841	89,481
1891 - - -	101,601,371	662,789	16,188,493	439,786	95,990	105,961
1892 - - -	110,583,154	675,342	25,041,635	648,103	112,224	121,631
1893 - - -	101,140,361	757,937	19,106,553	535,055	90,203	98,572
1894 - - -	104,986,406	598,010	21,608,384	587,564	99,192	112,401

25. The directions in which the staples of the Island were exported, and their values, were as follows:—

—	United Kingdom.	France.	United States of America.	Other Countries.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£
Sugar - - -	366,115	—	219,045	12,850	598,010
Molasses - -	324	—	5	41,759	42,088
Rum - - -	3,988	—	192	93	4,273
Cocoa - - -	143,277	246,252	174,584	23,451	587,564
Cocoanuts - -	33,849	—	926	1,226	36,001
Asphalt - -	14,121	6,196	75,250	16,834	112,401
Bitters - - -	7,896	402	13,605	9,199	31,102
Total - -	569,570	252,850	483,607	105,412	1,411,439

26. The total trade for the year was 3,596,293*l.* exclusive of Bullion and Specie, showing a decrease of 331,949*l.* as compared with 1893. The Acting Collector of Customs in his Annual Report remarks that, *primâ facie*, it would appear that there has been a falling off in the trade of the Colony, but, inasmuch as the duties received, no material change having been made in the tariff, were in excess of those collected in 1893 by 3,180*l.*, the lower values must be mainly due to a decline in cost price and not in quantity.

Shipping.

27. The number of vessels entered and cleared during 1894 was 5,001, with a total tonnage of 1,273,455 tons.

28. The following tables show the countries from which vessels arrived, and to which they departed:—

Entered.

From.	Sailing.		Steam.		Total.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Great Britain -	31	14,075	92	132,977	123	147,052
United States -	48	20,861	31	38,070	79	58,931
British North America.	41	5,811	14	15,347	55	21,158
British West Indies and British Guiana.	415	38,498	135	149,870	550	188,368
Venezuela -	1,401	12,774	149	103,244	1,550	116,018
Other Countries -	108	37,900	52	69,356	160	107,256
Tota -	2,044	129,919	473	508,864	2,517	638,783

Cleared.

For.	Sailing.		Steam.		Total.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Great Britain -	47	18,665	17	21,480	64	40,145
United States -	74	41,643	34	41,151	108	82,794
British North America.	11	1,787	11	11,927	22	13,714
British West Indies and British Guiana	384	24,791	180	203,888	564	228,679
Venezuela - -	1,369	11,567	201	185,020	1,570	196,587
Other Countries -	126	29,728	30	43,025	156	72,753
Total -	2,011	128,181	473	506,491	2,484	634,672

29. The Nationality of the vessels which entered and cleared is shown in the following table:—

Nationality.	Sailing.		Steam.		Total.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
British - -	463	44,462	298	371,944	761	416,406
French - -	19	1,323	57	74,542	76	75,865
United States -	68	37,059	21	4,497	89	41,556
Dutch - -	28	3,152	33	34,111	61	37,263
Venezuela - -	1,382	10,968	61	21,756	1,443	32,724
Other Countries -	84	32,955	3	2,014	87	34,969
Total -	2,044	129,919	473	508,864	2,517	638,783

Crown Lands.

30. The total area of the Colony is 1,120,000 acres. Of this 426,948 acres have been alienated, while there still remains 693,052 acres of Crown Land. The upset price of Crown Lands is 30*s.* per acre, which covers cost of survey and fees. During the year, 669 lots were sold, of which 92 were town or village lots, the remainder contained 7,072 acres of rural land. About the same quantity was sold during the year 1893.

Criminal Statistics.

31. The number of offences reported to the Police was 15,779, against 16,831 during the year 1893. Twenty thousand, four hundred and sixty-eight (20,468) persons were apprehended by the Police, or summoned before the Magistrates, of whom 12,262 were summarily convicted, and 195 committed for trial at the Sessions: of the latter 115 were convicted.

32. The following table compares the state of crime during the last four years:—

——	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.
Offences - -	16,169	15,043	16,831	15,779
Apprehensions - -	16,835	16,808	19,793	20,468
Convictions:				
By the Magistrate -	9,668	10,464	11,549	12,262
In Superior Courts -	145	108	117	115

The total number of convictions bears the same percentage to the population as the previous year, viz., 5·5 per cent.

There was a daily average of 567 prisoners in the gaols.

Meteorological.

33. The highest temperature recorded at the Botanical Gardens, St. Ann's, during the year 1894, was 90·4 in May, the lowest was 65·5 in March. The mean annual temperature was 78·45.

April was the driest month, with a rainfall of 1·22 inches: in August most rain, 12·06 inches. The total rainfall for the year was 52·21 inches. The average rainfall for 33 years to 1894, was 67·5 inches. The mean daily height of the barometer, reduced readings, was 29·971.

Savings Banks.

34. There are nine branches of the Saving Bank in the Colony.

	£
The balance on 1st January, 1894, was	167,205
The deposits during the year were	129,623
Total	£296,828
The withdrawals during the year were	122,376
Leaving as due to depositors	£174,452

Of this, 158,517*l.* is invested in English Funds and Colonial Inscribed Stock, the remainder being cash in hand to meet current transactions.

The number of depositors on the 31st December, was 8,337, being an increase of 553 over the number of the previous year and being in the proportion of 1 in 27 of the population.

Friendly Societies.

35. There were 53 registered Friendly Societies, containing 5,624 members and holding funds amounting to 3,272*l.*

General.

36. There were throughout the year 83 sporadic cases of a pernicious fever, resembling yellow fever, of which 50 proved fatal. Almost all the cases among the White people were of males under 40 years of age, and of less than three years residence in the Island. In spite of this fever, the general health of the Colony was good, and the death-rate was lower than that of the previous two years.

37. Towards the close of the year, a severe agricultural depression set in, due to the low prices of sugar, and a fall in cocoa. This depression, though it seriously affected individuals, did not, owing to the varied nature of our products, affect the general prosperity of the Island as much as might have been expected.

38. The question of a change of the political constitution, by which the inhabitants of the Island might obtain direct representation in the Legislative Council, was much discussed, bu no decision on the matter has yet been given.

39. Important commissions appointed by me inquired into the condition of the railway and roads departments. In the former, large frauds were discovered. Penal measures were taken against officers implicated, and the department was reorganised. The report of each commission has been fully considered and acted

upon. One result has been a substantial increase in the railway revenue.

40. I found, on investigation, that the accounts of the Colony were imperfectly kept. A commissioner of accounts has been appointed to thoroughly overhaul the entire system and the books at the Treasury and Audit offices. This officer has not yet reported. Defalcations or losses of public funds are not suspected, but the book-keeping appears to have more or less at fault for a number of years, and it has been impossible to ascertain true balances or to prepare correct returns in certain instances. There is no question, however, as to the Government possessing the large surplus cash balance of 82,192*l.*, before mentioned at the close of 1894. A complete set of financial instructions has been prepared and brought into force.

41. A contract was concluded for the construction of deep-water wharfage and a railway at Chaguaramas Bay, near Port-of-Spain. The scheme is as yet at the option of the promoter, but, if it proceeds, it will be a very important and valuable work.

42. I annex the report of the Commissioner of Tobago (the Hon. William Low). In the affairs of this Island the clouds seem lifting. Let us hope they will soon show a silver lining! Tobago is fertile, it is healthy, it is beautiful, it is very cheap. It is possible to live there there "like a gentleman," and with a certain amount of tropic luxury, on 200*l.* a year. On 400*l.* a year, a family would be in easy circumstances. Land is to be had for almost nothing. There is a competence in cocoa, and a fortune, as I am assured, in coffee. I have travelled, but know no part of the world which offers so much to the small capitalist. The retired officer or employé, with his pension and some hundreds of pounds, could, it seems to me, do surprisingly well in Tobago, both for himself and his family.

43. These are hard times for agriculture, and Trinidad is almost wholly agricultural. The planters have been suffering much from low prices. Yet, thanks to its varied products, to the Pitch Lake (which yielded 33,498*l.* in 1894), and to the spirit and industry of its population, the Colony still shows a brave and bright front to the world. The public revenue of 1894 (585,905*l.*) was the largest ever collected. The surplus (48,130*l.*) was the largest since 1879.

I have, &c.
F. NAPIER BROOME.

TOBAGO.

Annual Report on Blue Book for 1894.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The balance at credit of the revenue on the opening of the year was 212*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*

During 1894 the receipts were 8,842*l.* 19*s.* 1*d.* This included the sum of 871*l.* 6*s.* 9*d.* credited to Tobago by the authorities of Trinidad on such goods as were entered at the Customs on "Transires" for transfer to Tobago.

The total revenue, therefore, including the balance, was 9,055*l.* 6*s.* 7*d.* The revenue of 1893 was 9,211*l.* 4*s.* 3*d.*

The expenditure in 1894 was 8,135*l.* 1*s.* 0*d.*, as against 8,537*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.* in 1893.

Assets and Liabilities.

Excluding the sum of 5,000*l.* due to Trinidad, the available assets on 31st December, 1894, exceeded the liabilities by 146*l.* 4*s.* 3*d.*

At the close of 1893 the total liabilities were 1,715*l.* 14*s.* 11*d.*

Thus, by a rigid supervision of expenditure and the reduction of some superfluous offices, the financial outlook has become brighter.

Public Debt.

The sum of 5,000*l.* is still owing to Trinidad; 4 per cent. interest is paid on this sum.

Legislation.

Twelve Regulations became law in 1894. The two most important were the Road Regulation and the Animals Trespass Regulation.

Civil Establishment.

The only changes in the Establishment during the year were the resignation of Mr. A. B. Duprey, who had been appointed provisionally to be Medical Officer of No. 3 District, and the appointment of Mr. Thomas B. Kenny, M.B., to succeed him.

Vital Statistics.

The health of the island during 1894 was all that could be desired. No disease of abnormal character affected the population, and, while the sister island and other places were afflicted with various ills, Tobago maintained its prestige for superior health.

It is estimated that the total population on 31st December, 1894, was 20,000.

Imports.

The Imports reported at the Treasury in 1894 amounted to 15,403*l.* 9*s.* 5*d.*, as against 17,862*l.* 19*s.* 2*d.* in 1893. The decrease may partly be accounted for by the small amount of money in circulation during the year, and partly to the introduction, duty free, by passengers, of goods of all descriptions from Trinidad, which necessarily are not reported at the Customs of either island.

In connexion with this, the falling off of Imports from the United Kingdom (3,157*l.* less than in 1893) may be noticed.

Exports.

The exports in 1894, as shown in the Blue Book, were 15,872*l.* 2*s.* 7*d.*

These figures represent in reality only a part of the Island's output. The exports to Trinidad (of which under existing arrangements no notice can be taken in the Blue Book) amounted to 11,727*l.*, or 1,973*l.* more than in 1893.

In 1893 the figures were:—General Exports, 15,675*l.*; to Trinidad 9,753*l.* 18*s.* 0*d.* It may be here mentioned that Tobago supplies the Barbadoes market annually with firewood, cattle, fruits, cocoanuts, &c., to the sum of 2,700*l.*

Criminal Statistics.

There were only three indictable offences referred to the Supreme Court in 1894.

The total number of offences reported to the Magistrate was 670, resulting in 256 convictions. The convictions were principally for assaults, offences against revenue and highway laws, and prædial larceny. The last offence is, as in most of the West India Islands, the besetting sin of the peasant, the attractions of the cocoanut and sugar cane being in most cases irresistible. However, only 18 convictions were obtained. The reason for the small proportion of convictions is not known, but, as a rule, it is most difficult to obtain evidence where the offence is regarded with a lenient eye.

Agriculture.

During the year the labourers have planted some hundreds more acres of canes than in 1893; but, with the depressed state of the sugar market, little real advantage is likely to accrue to the Colony from this expenditure of labour. This depression is on all accounts to be regretted, but it is especially felt in an island struggling with adverse fortune.

General.

Financially the island is at the close of the year in a sounder position than has been the case for some years.

It may perhaps be well to close this Report by appending a portion of an address to the Financial Board at the beginning of the year :—

"It is a pleasing duty for me to place on record—and at once—that, owing to the loyal co-operation and assistance of the Financial Board, most of the difficulties I have indicated have disappeared. The debt to the Crown Agents has been practically extinguished, the arrears of taxes collected; and, owing to the salutary effect of the Amending Land and House Tax Regulation of 1894, no possibility exists of the Revenue ever again losing large amounts of its land tax, as was the case when an estate owner had only to hand over some worthless acres to get rid of his liability.

"To establish a sound financial equilibrium has been my constant study. I have abolished some sinecure offices and by this means saved an annual expenditure of 784*l*.

"No liability has been incurred which could not be met out of current revenue, and every item of expenditure has been paid under my own personal supervision. I have devoted much time and attention to the expenditure on poor relief and hospitals, and I am able to report a reduction on those votes without in any way impairing the efficiency of the services.

"One of the questions on which I at once saw any possible permanent improvement of the Island depended was the devising of a simple method of disposing of the Crown Lands to small proprietors on easy terms. The first step was to introduce a system suitable to local requirements in lieu of the cumbrous and expensive procedure of the Intendant's office of Trinidad. After a very considerable correspondence I was enabled to obtain sanction to deal with these lands on terms suitable to our wants and which I think have met with very fair success, all things considered. Up to 31st December, 144 lots—principally of five acres—have been allocated to peasant proprietors, who are required to plant cocoa, coffee and other economic plants. I am constantly endeavouring to popularise the movement, as on its success and extension depend the future prosperity of our lovely but poor little island.

"A savings bank which had been long contemplated has been established and is working satisfactorily. On 31st December,

1894, there were 166 depositors whose savings amount 874*l.* 10*s.* 0*d.*

"The condition of the roads is deplorable; but it has been absolutely impossible to devote more than 300*l.* per annum to them. To mention that there are 120 miles of main roads is to demonstrate the impossibility of doing anything permanent with a sum which would barely upkeep 10 miles of good roads; and their present condition must, I regret to think, continue until adequate means can be raised for their thorough repair. The present state of the finances having at length justified my doing so, I have asked the most honourable the Secretary of State to sanction for Tobago a loan of 10,000*l.* to effect a few repairs to public buildings, to remake some of the roads, and to open three or four tracks to and through the Crown Lands. Should his Lordship assent to my proposal, I shall as speedily as possible consult the Board on the most advantageous manner of expending on loan.

"The state of the sugar market can only be described as distressing. 'How are the mighty fallen' may well be applied to this 'King' of a past day; and, unless means can be devised to command a remunerative price for this staple, it is quite probable that, except in small patches for local consumption, sugar must soon cease to be regarded as a source of profit or employment for our labouring population.

"None of the advantages which were anticipated from the adoption of the principles of the McKinley tariff have been realised, and Tobago, in common with all the other West Indian sugar growing Colonies, has suffered a loss of much needed revenue.

"I am submitting to-day to your further consideration the question of the terms on which the grants of land may be made in order to encourage emigration from Barbados. The question is one of much importance, as the advantages of increasing the number of our population are manifold. You have already had this question before you and I am sure that, recognizing the desirability of attracting attention to our fertile and healthy Island, you will deal with the matter from a liberal point of view."

WM. LOW,
Commissioner.

May 10, 1895.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 141.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1894.

(For Report for 1893, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 111.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
15 *August* 1895.

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1895.

[C.—7847.-2.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
109	Gibraltar	1893
110	Bahamas	"
111	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
112	Leeward Islands	"
113	Barbados	"
114	Malta	"
115	Zululand	"
116	British Honduras	"
117	Trinidad and Tobago	"
118	Falkland Islands	"
119	Rodrigues	"
120	Mauritius	"
121	Straits Settlements	"
122	Labuan	"
123	Basutoland	1893–94
124	St. Lucia	1893
125	St. Helena	"
126	Ceylon	"
127	Fiji	"
128	Grenada	"
129	Sierra Leone	"
130	British Bechuanaland	1893–94
131	British New Guinea	1892–3& 1893–94
132	Lagos	1893
133	British Guiana	1893–94
134	Jamaica	"
135	Newfoundland	1893
136	Gold Coast	"
137	Zululand	1894
138	Bermuda	"
139	Bahamas	"
140	Barbados	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.

No. 141.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

(For Report for 1893, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 111.)

Sir H. A. BLAKE to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

King's House, Jamaica,
May 28, 1895.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship a copy of the Blue Book of the Turks and Caicos Islands for the year 1894, together with the Commissioner's Report thereon.

I have, &c.
HENRY A. BLAKE,
Governor.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF THE TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS FOR THE YEAR 1894.

1.—*Taxes, Duties, &c.*

The inhabitants of the Dependency pay no direct taxes.

The sources of revenue are import duty, collected in accordance with a tariff prepared on very liberal lines, royalty on all salt exported, at the rate of one tenth of the statutory value, which is at present 3½*d.* per bushel, port dues paid by vessels entering, at the rate of 4*d.* per ton registered tonnage, and the usual internal and miscellaneous receipts.

There was no alteration in these sources of revenue during the year under review.

2.—*Revenue and Expenditure.*

The finances of the Dependency are in a satisfactory condition.

The Revenue collected in 1894 was 8,840*l.*, as compared with 7,434*l.* in 1893, and exceeded the estimate by 1,587*l.*

The bulk of this excess is due to the heavy export of salt with accompanying increase in dues from shipping. Import duties also brought in more than the average figure, and nearly all the minor heads of revenue show some slight rise.

The balance carried forward from the previous year was 2,394*l.*, giving a gross revenue of 11,234*l.*

The total expenditure amounted to 7,459*l.*, being less by 358*l.* than the sum expended in 1893. Of this amount, 7,127*l.* was ordinary expenditure, against 7,095*l.* in 1893, and 332*l.* was for works and services of a special nature, the sum so spent in 1893 having been 722*l.*

The revenue collected within the year exceeded by 1,381*l.* the total expenditure within the same period. Of the sum so in excess, 1,000*l.* was invested by the Crown Agents on behalf of the Government, leaving the working balance to carry forward to 1895 to be increased by 381*l.* The whole sum so carried forward was 2,775*l.*, making, with the investment of 1,000*l.* above mentioned, and a further sum of 1,000*l.* which the Dependency had already to its credit invested, a total credit balance of 4,775*l.*

A proper and usual system of account books, with a duly balanced ledger and monthly balance sheet, was instituted from the commencement of the year, which conduces to greater accuracy and facility in the keeping and rendering of the accounts of the Dependency.

3.—*Assets and Liabilities.*

There was a balance of assets over liabilities on the 31st December 1894 of 4,774*l.* 18*s.* 7*d.*

4.—*Public Debt.*

The Dependency has no Public Debt.

5.—*Municipalities.*

There are local boards, established by various legislative enactments, to deal with the following subjects, namely, Health, Quarantine, Prisons, Pilotage, Salt Ponds, Education, and Medical Relief.

6.—*Public Works.*

Good progress was made with the work of bringing into a state of proper repair and efficiency the various public buildings and other property of the Government at the three ports.

A brief memorandum of the expenditure at the three settlements is attached:—

—	Grand Turk.	Salt Cay.	Cockburn Harbour.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Public roads and abutments.	75 2 7	26 11 1	62 0 7
Tanks and wells - -	25 5 3	4 14 6	6 12 0
Public buildings - -	246 14 8	3 0 6	104 3 5
Miscellaneous (including materials).	232 2 10	5 4 11	38 19 11
	579 5 4	39 11 0	211 15 11

	£ s. d.
Grand Turk - - -	- 579 5 4
Salt Cay - - -	- 39 11 0
Cockburn Harbour - - -	- 211 15 11
	£830 12 3

Special Works.

	£ s. d.
Removing shoals, Grand Turk -	- 7 7 0
Hawk's Nest Road, „ - -	- 105 0 0
Tank, Cockburn Harbour - -	- 94 8 1
Government Yacht - -	- 125 8 6
	£332 3 7

7.—*Legislation.*

The following Ordinances were passed during the year:—

No. 1—The Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance.
No. 2—The Annual Appropriation Ordinance.
No. 3—(Not assented to).
No. 4—The Interpretation Ordinance.
No. 5—(Not assented to).
No. 6—The Medical Service Ordinance.
No. 7—The Salt Pond Ordinances Short Continuance Ordinance.
No. 8—The Notary Public Ordinance.
No. 9—The Liquor License Ordinance.
No. 10—The Superannuation (Abolition of Office) Ordinance.
No. 11—The Wint Retiring Allowance Ordinance.
No. 12—The Salt Ponds Ordinances Further Continuance Ordinance.

8.—*Legislative Board.*

There was no change in the composition of the board during the past year.

9.—*Civil Establishment.*

Mr. E. J. Cameron, Commissioner, was absent on vacation leave from the 24th August to the 29th September, his duties being performed during that period by Mr. W. E. Cleaver, Judge of the Supreme Court.

Mr. A. W. Harriott, Assistant Commissioner and Police Magistrate at Grand Turk, was on vacation leave from the 7th October to the 10th November, the several duties of his office being distributed between Mr. J. C. Crisson, Accountant and Clerk, and Mr. E. C. Harriott, clerk to the Commissioner.

Mr. E. C. Harriott was absent on vacation leave from the 29th June to the 23rd September, Mr. L. Lea Smith being appointed to act for him in his absence.

10.—*Pensions.*

Mr. A. C. Lowe, late Colonial Secretary, who was in receipt of a pension of 198*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* per annum, died at Nassau, Bahamas, on the 20th February. Mr. F. Ellis, late Queen's Advocate, who drew a pension of 175*l.* 10*s.* 0*d.*, died in England on the 24th November, and Mr. H. Higgins, late Commissioner, who was granted a pension of 9*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* from 1st February 1893, died also in England on the 19th December, making a total reduction in the pension vote of 383*l.* 10*s.* 0*d.*

The total sum paid in pensions was 708*l.* 6*s.* 10*d.*

11.—*Foreign Consuls.*

The following countries are represented:—

United States of America.
Sweden and Norway.
Denmark.
France.
Spain.
Dominican Republic.
Haytian Republic.

12.—*Population and Vital Statistics.*

The population of the Dependency at the last census in 1891 amounted to 4,744, of whom 2,211 were males and 2,533 females. Of these, 369, or about 8 per cent. were white, the remainder coloured.

Grand Turk and Salt Cay, the two Turks Islands proper, provided 1,883 and 485 of this population respectively, in all 2,368, while the Caicos Islands furnished the remainder, 2,376.

From the return* of births and deaths since 1891, it appears that the number is on the increase, but, on the other hand, it must be borne in mind that there is a steady emigration of labourers to the neighbouring Republics of Hayti and St. Domingo, of whom there is always a certain small percentage who become permanent absentees.

The death-rate for last year is noticeably high, being 135, or 28·4 per 1,000, against 94, or 19·8 per 1,000, in 1893. It is probable that the unusually heavy rainfall is accountable to some extent for this result, especially in the Caicos Islands, where malarial fever is prevalent in wet seasons.

The Medical Officer reports a good deal of infant mortality at Grand Turk. With a view to better this state of things, an arrangement has recently been made by which suitable persons from here will be sent for a course of training as midwives in the Lying-in-Hospital at Jamaica, under bond to practise for a certain term in the Dependency on their return, at a rate of remuneration within the means of the poorer class of patients.

13.—*Ecclesiastical.*

As is usually the case in these smaller and more remote West Indian possessions, by far the larger number of the people belong to the Wesleyan and Baptist persuasions. These have large chapels at Grand Turk, and have also places of worship at the other towns and in all the settlements of the Caicos.

The Church of England was disestablished and disendowed in 1873. It at present supports two clergymen and has a church in each of the townships, but does not extend its operations to the Caicos Islands beyond Cockburn Harbour.

The Dependency is for ecclesiastical purposes in the Diocese of the Bahamas, and is visited from time to time by the Bishop of Nassau. One of these visits was paid during the past year.

14.—*Education.*

The following remarks are taken from the annual Report of the Board of Education: they show briefly what the work of the year has been and that there is an improvement in the conditions since my last report.

* * * *

2. The total average attendance of children at the seven schools is 6 per cent. higher than the total of the previous years. All the schools have done better except at Grand Turk and Kew, at

* Not printed.

which there is a considerable decrease in attendance, the figures being 65 and 31 respectively, as against 75 and 45 for 1893.

3. The unsatisfactory condition of these two last-mentioned schools has been a subject of anxious consideration by the Board. They have now both been placed under new teachers, who arrived from Jamaica at the end of December last and entered upon their duties with the new year. These gentlemen have been specially selected by the Superintending Inspector of Schools at Jamaica, and will, the Board trusts, succeed in producing a material improvement at their respective stations.

4. The school at Bottle Creek, opened at the close of 1893, has been in good working order throughout the year, and is proving a distinct factor for civilization and moral progress in that district.

* * * *

15.—*Newspapers.*

There are two newspapers published weekly at Grand Turk, one of which, the "Royal Standard and Gazette," has been issued regularly from the same office, without a break or change, for a period of over 40 years. Few West Indian publications can show such a record.

16.—*Currency, Banking, &c.*

The currency of the Dependency is English gold and silver, American gold and Jamaica nickel coin.

Mexican silver passes outside at 2*s.* to the dollar, but is not received at all by the Government.

Mercantile accounts are for the most part kept in dollars and cents, at the rate of 4*s.* to the dollar.

There is no banking establishment. Remittances are made by bills of exchange drawn on firms in England and New York by merchants in payment of salt cargoes, and the public also avails itself to a considerable extent of the money-order system.

17.—*Imports and Exports.*

The Import duties are above the average, and 287*l.* more than the previous year's figures. The principal item of increase is on Spirits, which brought in close on 200*l.* more than in 1893. The receipts under the heads of Alcohol, Lumber, Salt-meats, and Sugar are also higher, while *ad valorem* duties, on the other hand, show a net falling off of 80*l.*, the deficiency being under the heads, Materials of Wrecks and Textile Fabrics.

The export of salt was the largest yet recorded, being 2,116,779 bushels, bringing in to Government a royalty of 3,087*l.* Of this quantity, 465,114 bushels were ground-fishery salt for British North America.

The export has previously exceeded 2,000,000 bushels on only two occasions, in the years 1876 and 1889, the figures being 2,030,258 and 2,108,506 respectively.

Except at Cockburn Harbour, the season for salt-raking was not a favourable one, owing to the unusually heavy rains, and the salt gathered scarcely amounted to as much as three-quarters of an average crop. This, however, with the large stock on hand at the commencement of the year, enabled all demands to be met, but there only remained 130,000 bushels at the three ports at its close, so that the prospects for 1895 are altogether dependent on a good season.

The price of salt continued for the greater part of the year at the same low figure, 5½ to 6 cents a bushel, but an increased demand and an immediate rise in price to 7 cents and more followed the passing into law of the new Tariff Bill in the United States, by which Turks Islands salt passes into that country free of duty.

As over three-fourths of the whole export trade is with that country, and the duty thus taken off amounts to, as nearly as possible, six cents on a bushel, the importance of the event to this community is immense.

Comparative tables showing the trade and other statistics of the Dependency are attached :—

——	1892.	1893.	1894.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Value of imports	25,387 12 2	24,888 4 6	28,525 14 10
Import duties collected -	3,038 19 11	2,886 4 5	3,173 14 9

VALUE of EXPORTS of DOMESTIC PRODUCE and MANUFACTURES in the Years 1892, 1893, and 1894.

——	1892.	1893.	1894.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Salt - - - -	26,113 1 0	22,410 19 5	29,686 10 3
Sponge - - - -	939 12 6	618 2 8	217 11 8
Sisal-hemp - - -	25 0 5	—	419 13 2
Salt-fish - - -	—	19 8 0	—
Turtle-shell - - -	77 10 0	175 14 6	62 2 0
Total - - -	27,155 3 11	23,224 4 7	30,385 17 1

VALUE of IMPORTS and EXPORTS from and to each Country for the Years 1892, 1893, and 1894.

Imports.

—	1892.	1893.	1894.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
United Kingdom - -	4,168 13 5	4,116 5 10	3,666 14 0
British North America - -	1,070 10 6	1,112 18 10	1,126 12 8
British Colonies - - -	1,468 18 1	1,507 10 0	1,973 14 6
United States of America -	16,635 6 6	15,645 13 0	18,408 2 1
Other foreign countries - -	2,044 3 8	2,505 16 10	3,350 11 7
Total - - -	25,387 12 2	24,888 4 6	28,525 14 10

Exports.

—	1892.	1893.	1894.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
United Kingdom - -	—	—	—
British North America - -	6,293 15 4	7,724 2 1	8,697 13 5
British Colonies - - -	347 19 3	105 2 5	132 10 6
United States of America -	19,478 2 1	14,513 12 8	20,933 6 1
Other foreign countries - -	1,226 5 7	1,022 17 5	3,010 15 10
Total - - -	27,336 2 3	23,365 14 7	32,774 5 10

AVERAGE QUANTITY of SALT exported from each Port for the seven Years 1886 to 1892, and actual EXPORT for 1893 and 1894.

Ports.	1886 to 1892.	1893.	1894.
Grand Turk - -	599,892	707,629	735,353
Salt Cay - - -	469,111	313,633	446,054
Cockburn Harbour -	569,850	629,645	935,372
Total Bushels -	1,638,853	1,650,907	2,116,779

Salt in the Colony on 31st December	1891	-	350,000	bushels.
„ „ „	1892	-	640,000	„
„ „ „	1893	-	700,000	„
„ „ „	1894	-	130,000	„

18.—*Shipping.*

The total number and tonnage of vessels entered and cleared for the last three years is shown below:—

Sailing Vessels.

—	Entered.		Cleared.		Total.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
1892 - - -	294	45,887	299	45,364	593	91,251
1893 - - -	341	43,291	350	43,979	691	87,270
1894 - - -	311	55,030	320	54,215	631	109,245

Steamers.

—	Entered.		Cleared.		Total.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
1892 - - -	57	66,515	57	66,515	114	133,030
1893 - - -	63	68,103	63	68,103	126	136,206
1894 - - -	62	71,185	62	71,185	124	142,370

Totals British and Foreign.

—	1893.			1894.		
	Sailing.	Steam.	Total.	Sailing.	Steam.	Total.
British - -	46,935	24,672	71,607	51,071	24,672	75,743
Foreign - -	40,335	111,534	151,869	58,174	117,698	175,872
Total - -	87,270	136,206	223,476	109,245	142,370	251,615

In connection with these shipping returns, I may perhaps mention that, taking the figures of the Board of Trade Statistical Abstract, the average total tonnage of sailing vessels entered and cleared in the Dependency is larger than at any port in the West Indies except Jamaica, Barbados, and Trinidad, and that the average total of the foreign tonnage is only exceeded in the Bahamas, Jamaica and Trinidad.

H.M.S. "Canada" called at Grand Turk in the month of April and remained a few hours, subsequently visiting Cockburn Harbour.

There were no other visits by men-of-war.

There were four vessels stranded at the Caicos Islands during 1894, two of which were a total loss, the remaining two being got off with the assistance of the islanders and ultimately proceeding on their respective voyages. No lives were lost. The total salvage awarded on vessels and cargoes in these four cases was 2,048*l.*

19.—*Agriculture.*

I am glad to be able to report that, for the first time for several years, there was an absence of any distress among the inhabitants of the Caicos Islands such as to call for the distribution of the usual annual dole.

This result is attributable to the abundant rain, which enabled fair crops to be reaped in most of the settlements, coupled with some remunerative wrecks and also the regular employment afforded by the two fibre companies at East and West Caicos.

The companies referred to have steadily continued their operations. The first appreciable shipments of fibre were made by the East Caicos Company during the year, the quantity shipped being about 31 tons, valued at 420*l.*

20.—*Mines, Manufactures, &c.*

The production of salt from sea-water by solar evaporation is the one occupation and dependence of three-fourths of the inhabitants of this group of Islands. This production is by no means the simple matter that the above sentence would seem to imply, but involves constant care and watchfulness on the part of the salt pond proprietor to secure the existence of such of the conditions essential for the reaping of a thoroughly good quality of the article as are within his control. For the rest Nature has to be relied on, and no efforts of the salt-raker will avail anything unless she is favourable. An unseasonable spell of rain at the critical period of the "making" will upset all calculations and work dire disaster, but an examination of the recorded shipments of a series of past years will show that a fair amount of reliance may be placed on the constancy of the weather.

A description of the process of salt-making is outside the scope of this report, but the subject is not without interest, which has a

tendency to increase as one begins to grasp the different points of it.

At the present time, only a small proportion of the "salinas" (as the tracts of ground adapted for this industry are called) in the Dependency are worked. Considerable outlay is necessary for placing new ground under "cultivation," and the price of salt of late years has been too low to justify any such expenditure. With salt, however, selling at from 7 to 8 cents a bushel, and a steady demand, the result of the present fiscal policy of the United States, there is a fair profit to be made, and it might be worth the while of practical persons, with capital at their command, to investigate the possibilities.

Turks Island is in a good and convenient position for supplying the United States and Newfoundland markets, and the quality of the article which it sends out is, owing to the specially favourable climatic conditions, undeniable.

The annual crop might easily be half again what it now is, even on the salina area at present laid out, if worked more systematically and with the appliances for economizing labour, both of man and beast, which capital would probably enable to be introduced.

There are, however, no local capitalists, and any expansion such as I have briefly shadowed can only be looked for by the introduction of new blood.

21.—*Grants of Land.*

The dealing with Crown Lands in the Dependency has been much hampered during the past few years by the absence of any qualified surveyor in the country whose services could be obtained to measure out lands for sale. The provisions of the existing law regulating the subject cannot indeed be conformed to without the presence of such a person to carry out the formal preliminaries required. The land question generally, both in regard to the above particulars and especially the important point of title, is a very tangled skein, the unravelling of which is a matter of some difficulty. A new enactment, however, having for its object the provision of more simple procedure in acquiring land and for obtaining a legal title and the regulation of the succession, has been drafted and is now under the consideration of the Executive.

22.—*Gaols and Prisoners.*

The total number of persons committed during 1894 was 23, of whom six were for safe keeping and 17 for purposes of penal imprisonment.

The daily average in the gaol was five.

23.—*Criminal Statistics.*

The total number of offences reported to the police or to the magistrates in 1894 was 188, against 121 in 1893.

Of the offences reported in 1894:—
53 were for offences against the person.
4 „ „ prædial larceny.
15 „ „ offences against property other than prædial larceny.
116 „ „ other offences.

The total number of convictions in the inferior courts in 1894 was 115, against 68 in 1893.

These convictions are classified as follows:—
27 for offences against the person.
1 for prædial larceny.
4 for offences against property other than prædial larceny.
83 for other offences.

The convictions in the Supreme Court were as follows:—
2 for offences against the person.
2 „ „ „ property.

The acquittals were as follows:—

In the inferior courts - - - - - - -	40
In the Supreme Court - - - - - - -	3

The increase in the number of cases dealt with is, I think, attributable to a better performance of their duty on the part of the police.

24.—*Hospitals and Asylums.*

There is no hospital or asylum. Cases of lunacy are very rare, but, when occurring, the patient is placed in gaol, under medical supervision, and, if necessary, ultimately sent to the asylum at Jamaica.

25.—*Charitable and Literary Institutions.*

There has been no Poor-house in the Dependency since 1879, but a system of outdoor relief is in force which meets all cases of actual want, at a much less cost than would suffice to maintain any such institution.

The only Literary Institution is a Public Library and Free Reading Room at Grand Turk, established in commemoration of Her Majesty's Jubilee, partly by public subscription and partly by a Government grant. The Government contributes to its upkeep by a vote of 50*l.* a year. The institution is in every way a most creditable one to the place, providing an unusually ample selection of the leading newspapers and magazines, English and American, and also a generous supply of good and wholesome book literature, which is much appreciated.

26.—*Meteorological Observations.*

The rainfall during the year 1894 was the highest recorded since 1884.

One hurricane passed in unpleasant proximity to Grand Turk during the season, causing considerable anxiety, but I am

thankful to be able to record another year's immunity from these destructive visitations.

Tables of temperature and rainfall are appended:—

	Maximum.	Minimum.	Mean.
January	80°	75°	77°
February	79	75	76
March	80	74	77
April	82	77	77
May	83	76	80
June	84	80	82
July	84	82	83
August	86	82	84
September	86	83	84
October	86	81	83
November	84	78	82
December	81	75	77

RAINFALL for the Year 1894 compared with the Average for the previous Seven Years.

Month.	Grand Turk.	Salt Cay.	Cockburn Harbour.	Kew.
	Ins.	Ins.	Ins.	Ins.
January	·79	1·13	1·46	1·32
February	·20	·20	·50	·61
March	·05	·35	·53	3·12
April	·75	·83	·80	1·70
May	7·76	5·42	2·95	15·91
June	3·67	6·86	6·11	3·81
July	·93	·31	·52	1·87
August	1·47	1·09	1·03	·85
September	7·35	2·70	2·51	1·56
October	5·15	6·20	2·63	3·37
November	3·08	3·07	1·92	2·34
December	6·72	5·73	4·85	3·13
Total inches	37·92	33·89	25·81	39·59
Average for seven years, 1887 to 1894	24·72	22·62	21·36	40·52

27.—*Savings Banks.*

The Government Savings Bank was opened in 1890. The attached statement shows its condition at the present time:—

Bank.	No. of Depositors.		Deposited.		Withdrawn.		To credit.	
	1893.	1894.	1893.	1894.	1893.	1894.	1893.	1894.
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Grand Turk	47	68	260 2 9	338 9 6	156 6 6	145 0 3	413 15 2	607 4 5
Salt Cay -	30	33	27 6 10	39 13 0	47 7 6	36 8 10	67 10 11	70 15 1
Cockburn Harbour -	20	20	36 8 10	55 5 6	20 5 3	54 11 1	260 7 11	261 2 4
Total -	97	121	323 18 5	433 8 0	223 19 3	236 0 2	741 14 0	939 1 10

28.—*Post Office.*

The mail service was performed throughout the year by the contract s.s. "Alpha," of Messrs. Pickford and Black's line, plying monthly between Halifax and Jamaica, calling at Bermuda and Grand Turk.

The steamers of the Clyde line, from New York twice a month to Hayti and San Domingo, also continue to make Grand Turk a port of call on both the outward and inward voyage. This connection is of much convenience and advantage to the place, and arrangements have latterly been made with the postal authorities which enable a portion of the English mail to come by this route and thus to reach quicker than it would otherwise do.

A direct parcel-post with the United States and Canada was established during the year.

The Post-office revenue for the year was 196*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.*

29.—*General Remarks.*

The year 1894 was marked by an event of special importance to this community, namely the removal of the duty levied in the United States on its one staple export, salt. There was at first some doubt as to whether the connection with Jamaica, a colony which levies an import duty on American salt, would not debar the Dependency from participating in the privileges accorded by the Wilson Bill, and much alarm was occasioned here by the news of the first official rulings by the United States authorities, that Turks Islands salt was still liable to the duty. On proper representation however being made as to the true position of the Dependency, which is financially on an entirely separate and distinct footing and governed by its own code of laws, with its own tariff, by which American salt is admitted free, these rulings were reversed.

With the exception of fibre, there would seem to be no other marketable commodity which the Turks and Caicos Islands are capable of producing in any appreciable quantity but salt, and it is hardly too much to say that their continuance as an inhabited possession of the Crown depends on the existence of a trade in salt under conditions that will leave a moderate margin of profit to the producer. This margin has been steadily decreasing of late years, owing to the growing competition with salt from the Mediterranean and elsewhere, and also in some measure to the large increase in the American domestic product. The removal of the duty should exercise a decided influence in favour of the Turks Islands article, though to what extent the trade will really be benefited can hardly be accurately judged till the present year's transactions are in full progress.

A small shipment of fibre was made during the year. No new land has been taken up for this industry, and the present low figure at which the article is quoted must naturally militate against any immediate further development.

There are no other matters calling for special remark.

EDWARD J. CAMERON,
Grand Turk, April 4, 1895. Commissioner.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 144.

WINDWARD ISLANDS.

ANNUAL REPORTS FOR 1894.

(For Reports for 1893 *see* Colonial Reports [Annual] Nos. 108, 124 and 128.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
15 *August* 1895.

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1895.

[C.—7847-5.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
111	Turks and Caicos Islands	1893
112	Leeward Islands	,,
113	Barbados	,,
114	Malta	,,
115	Zululand	,,
116	British Honduras	,,
117	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
118	Falkland Islands	,,
119	Rodrigues	,,
120	Mauritius	,,
121	Straits Settlements	,,
122	Labuan	,,
123	Basutoland	1893–4
124	St. Lucia	1893
125	St. Helena	,,
126	Ceylon	,,
127	Fiji	,,
128	Grenada	,,
129	Sierra Leone	,,
130	British Bechuanaland	1893–94
131	British New Guinea	1892–3 & 1893–4
132	Lagos	1893
133	British Guiana	1893–94
134	Jamaica	,,
135	Newfoundland	1893
136	Gold Coast	,,
137	Zululand	1894
138	Bermuda	,,
139	Bahamas	,,
140	Barbados	,,
141	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
142	Malta	,,
143	Gambia	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.

No. 144.

WINDWARD ISLANDS.

[For Reports for 1893 *see* Colonial Reports (Annual) Nos. 104, 124, and 128.]

Sir CHARLES BRUCE to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

MY LORD, Grenada, June 8, 1895.

I HAVE the honour to submit my Report on the Blue Books of the Colonies included in the Government of the Windward Islands for the year 1894.

GRENADA.

Revenue and Expenditure.

1. The revenue of the year 1894 amounted to 63,062*l.* and was the largest on record; the expenditure was 59,594*l.* The revenue and expenditure for 1893, and the average of the five years 1888–92, were as follows:—

	1893.	1888 to 1892.
	£	£
Revenue - - - -	59,210	52,185
Expenditure - - - -	58,039	53,577

Assets and Public Debt.

2. The surplus assets of the Colony at the end of the year amounted to 7,546*l.*, a satisfactory accumulation of over 5,000*l.*

having taken place since the 31st of December, 1893. The Public Debt at the close of the year was as follows:—

	£
4 per cent. stock - - -	87,400
4½ per cent. debentures - -	4,700
5 per cent. debentures - - -	4,000
	£96,100

By Ordinance 2 of 1894 a further issue of stock to the amount of 21,100*l.* was authorised, but no issue has yet been made, the necessary advances having been obtained locally and by the Crown Agents at advantageous rates of interest. The Colony has also guaranteed the repayment by the St. George's Town Board of a debt of 2,431*l.* The Public Debt of the Colony represents a little less than twice the revenue of the year, and an indebtedness of a little more than 2*l.* per head of the population.

Public Works and Roads.

3. It has been the consistent and successful policy of the Government of Grenada for some years to enhance the value of the lands of the Colony in every district by the construction and maintenance of serviceable roads, so that even out-lying estates may have facilities for bringing their produce to market. In pursuance of this policy, a sum of 8,496*l.* was expended during the year in the re-construction of roads and the construction of bridges and culverts. The construction of the works necessary to secure a supply of water to the town of Grenville was commenc and vigorously pushed forward during the year. The scheme will not only be of advantage in the way of providing the residents of the district with pure water, but will be of value to shipping, and promises such additional facilities for the protection of property against fire as will, it is hoped, enable proprietors to insure at easy rates of premium. The completion of the extension and partial reconstruction of the Lunatic Asylum provides an institution very creditable to the Colony, and sufficient at present to accommodate in ample comfort lunatics from all the Windward Islands.

Legislation.

4. The most important enactment of the year was an Ordinance to Consolidate and Amend the Customs Laws of the Colony.

Health and Vital Statistics.

5. The health of the Colony was good throughout the year; the death rate being 20·89 per 1,000, as compared with 24·96

in 1893 and an average rate of 23·55 for six previous years. The birth rate was 43·31 per 1,000. The estimated population at the end of the year was 57,692, showing an increase of 1,279 during the year. The percentage of legitimate compared with illegitimate births is steadily, if slowly, improving, as shown by the following figures:—

Percentage.

—	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.
Legitimate - -	44·77	48·64	49·57	51·12	52·33
Illegitimate - -	55·23	51·36	50·43	48·88	47·67

The Yaws Hospital was reopened during the year.

Education.

6. The work of primary instruction was carried on by 34 schools with 6,723 children on the registers and an average attendance of 3,608. The number of children on the registers represents, therefore, nearly 12 per cent. of the population. The Government expenditure on primary schools amounted to 4,808*l.* or about 1*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* per head of the children in average attendance.

On higher instruction the Government expenditure was limited to 593*l.* in the form of Grants-in-aid to the St. George's Grammar Schools for boys and two High Schools for girls.

Shipping.

7. The number and tonnage of vessels entered and cleared in 1894 was as follows:—

—	Entered.		Cleared.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
Steamers - -	180	229,289	179	226,319
Sailing vessels - -	407	12,573	345	12,574
Totals - -	587	241,862	524	238,893

During the year a scheme was set on foot for coaling steamers in the inner harbour of St. George, which offers the advantages of

a free port perfectly secure in all weather, and of established healthiness; a plentiful supply of pure water; and cheap provisions. The first cargo of coal arrived on the 1st January, 1895, and ships are swiftly and economically coaled alongside.

Meteorology.

8. It was unfortunate that a year of drought, materially affecting the prosperity of the Colony, should have been signalised by extraordinary damage from rainfall. The rainfall for the year, registered at Richmond Hill, amounted to only 68 inches, compared with 84 inches in 1893 and 105 inches in 1892. On the 28th of September a rainstorm occurred which caused the rivers in the parish of St. Andrew's to swell with extraordinary violence, carrying away a considerable area of cultivated land and doing great damage to bridges and causeways.

Immigration.

9. With the decline of the Sugar Industry, immigration from the East Indies to Grenada ceased, and no indentured coolies have been received since 1885. By the terms of their indenture, Immigrant Coolies were entitled, after ten years' residence, to a return passage to India or to a bounty of 10*l.* in lieu of passage. In 1894 the last of the Immigrants who came to the Colony under indenture were repatriated or accepted bounty in substitution.

Imports and Exports.

10. The value and direction of the trade of the Colony for the five years ended 31st December, 1894, is exhibited in the following table :—

Imports.

Year.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.	Totals.
	£	£	£	£
1890	93,258	37,284	40,332	170,874
1891	97,895	31,512	47,523	176,930
1892	79,015	34,549	45,138	158,702
1893	83,175	37,729	45,774	166,678
1894	99,973	35,418	61,607	196,998

Exports.

Year.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.	Totals.
	£	£	£	£
1890 - - -	241,221	8,882	16,199	266,302
1891 - - -	218,600	8,672	9,371	236,643
1892 - - -	241,112	9,794	13,775	264,681
1893 - - -	293,080	8,629	14,354	316,063
1894 - - -	176,241	4,421	8,952	189,614

The increase of imports is, to a large extent, attributed to the increasing use of American foodstuffs in substitution of local produce in the form of plantains and the vegetables known under the general name of "ground provisions." The tendency was further promoted in 1894 by the excessive drought, which restricted the growth of local produce. The value of imports from the United States in 1894 amounted to 60,036*l.*, compared with 44,184*l.* in 1893. Of the total imports 50 per cent., were from the United Kingdom and 30 per cent. from the United States.

The drought, which increased the value of imports, and consequently the Revenue from duties of Customs, materially reduced the volume of exports. The value of the principal exports compared with the exports of 1893, was as follows :—

	1894.		1893.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Cwts.	£	Cwts.	£
Cocoa - - -	72,623	168,498	93,688	281,000
Spices (Nutmegs) -	1,917	9,583	2,087	14,546

General.

11. It is noteworthy that the largest Revenue on record, chiefly due to increased income from duties of Customs, has coincided with a decrease in the quantity of the principal staples exported and a considerable fall in price. In addition to the increased revenue from Customs, due to the substitution of American foodstuffs for local produce, the volume of imported foodstuffs has

been swelled to an appreciable extent by the money put in circulation by payment of wages in connection with the construction of the Grenville Water Works, and the extraordinary expenditure on roads and bridges. In comparison with the financial position and immediate prospects of Colonies mainly dependent on the sugar-cane, Grenada has been fortunate. In my report on the Blue Book for 1893, I showed that sugar had ceased to be an export of significance, the value of sugar exported having fallen from 56,386*l.* in 1873 to 731*l.* in 1893. In 1894 the value of the sugar exported fell to 50*l.* The sugar industry is now chiefly confined to the manufacture of muscovado and rum for local consumption, and for both of these commodities there is a sufficient local demand at very remunerative prices.

Notwithstanding the continuous fall in the price of cocoa, land under cultivation in cocoa and nutmegs sells at very high prices. The value of lands under cocoa promises to be maintained by the efforts made to meet falling prices by superior cultivation and more careful preparation, with a view to secure a higher market price for Grenada cocoa by a high and uniform standard of quality. As regards the lands of the Colony generally, their value is being steadily enhanced by the extension of subsidiary agricultural industries of coffee, fruit, plaintain, and kola cultivation. Attention is also being turned to logwood. All these industries, except logwood, were temporarily affected by the drought during 1894, but are of excellent promise for the future.

ST. LUCIA.

Revenue and Expenditure.

12. The Revenue of the year 1894 amounted to 56,590*l.*; the Expenditure to 54,500*l.* The Revenue and Expenditure of the year 1893, and the average Revenue and Expenditure of the five years, 1888 to 1892, were as follows:—

	1893.	Average, 1888 to 1892.
	£	£
Revenue - - - -	51,598	47,523
Expenditure - - - -	49,271	48,706

The Revenue exceeded the Revenue of 1893 by 4,992*l.* There was an increase of 2,331*l.* under the head of Customs, and of 451*l.* from Excise and Licenses. The Revenue was swelled by a casual receipt of 1,637*l.*, being an instalment of the purchase money of the Dredger "Dolphin" sold to the Government of Guadeloupe.

The Expenditure of 1894 exceeded the Expenditure of the previous year by 5,129*l.* There was an increase of Expenditure under the head of Public Works, amounting to 4,500*l.*, exclusive of special expenditure on account of damage to roads and bridges, caused by a severe gale and floods in the month of October. An extraordinary expenditure of 1,738*l.* on Public Works and relief was due to this disaster.

Military Expenditure.

13. The Imperial Expenditure during the year for Military purposes amounted to 38,673*l.* The Colonial Expenditure was limited to 1,788*l.*, paid as an allowance to the troops in lieu of exemption from duties of Customs.

Assets and Public Debt.

14. The Statement of Assets and Liabilities of the Colony, on the 31st of December, shows a surplus of 4,655*l.* The Public Debt at the same date amounted to 179,280*l.*, of which 66,480*l.* were converted during the year into 4 per cent. Inscribed Stock at

a premium of 2*l.* 13*s.* 9*d.* The sum of 2,000*l.* was paid off by the redemption of drawn debentures. The Public Debt at the close of the year represented an indebtedness of a little over three times the Revenue of the year, and of 3*l.* 19*s.* 5*d.* per head of the population.

Savings Bank.

15. The deposits in the Savings Bank at the close of the year amounted to 9,548*l.*, showing an excess of 1,553*l.* over the deposits at the close of 1893.

Public Works.

16. In view of the increasing importance of St. Lucia as a fortified coaling station, the health of the Town of Castries, and its ability to supply ships with provisions and pure water, and to put coal on board with economy and despatch, are matters of the first public concern. It is fortunate therefore that the Town Board of Castries has shown itself to be a body of intelligent energy in the prosecution of many useful labours on behalf of the Town. Several recent visitors, and among them Mr. Osbert Chadwick, C.M.G., have assured me that they have been astonished at the improvement of the Town during the last few years. During the year 1894 the efforts of the Board to secure the healthiness of the Town have been assisted by the Government undertaking the reclamation of an area of swamp bordering the Botanic Garden. In the month of July, I had the pleasure of opening an admirable enclosed market, erected by the Board. The market is most conveniently situated for the supply of fresh provisions to the shipping, and the regulations made by the Board are designed to ensure the sound and healthy quality of the commodities offered for sale.

Throughout the year, and especially towards its close, the preliminary labours necessary for the carrying out of a scheme for the supply of pure water to the residents of Castries and the shipping were prosecuted with energy. The surveys and gaugings carried on during the year seem to prove conclusively that a sufficient and constant supply of water, of admirable purity, can be brought into Castries from the gathering grounds of La Sorciere and Piton Flore. Plans and estimates have since been prepared, and arrangements are being made for the early execution of the scheme. The fact of St. Lucia being now frequently visited by ships of the navies of European and American Powers has given additional reason for the construction of a suitable Government House where the colonists, the resident military officers, the naval officers on the station, the officers of Foreign powers and visitors generally may meet in friendly intercourse. I am glad, therefore, to be able to report that the building of Government House is proceeding with rapidity. Several minor but useful public works were carried out during the year.

Crown Lands.

17. Grants of Crown Lands, to the number of 40 in the country and 23 in towns and villages, were made during the year, the total acreage granted being 461 acres. According to the latest return made by the Crown Lands Department, the Crown Lands extend to 9,850 acres, and 8,548 acres are in process of escheat. The disposal and cultivation of these lands may be looked to as a reliable source of future prosperity. On this subject, I venture to transcribe from a local publication, "The Voice of St. Lucia," a passage which is not, I think, an exaggeration of fact:

"We have fertile land enough lying unproductive in the hands of the Crown in St. Lucia to support, without drawing anything from outside, twice the population of Barbados. When one realises that the plantain produces to the acre 44 times more food than the potato, and 131 times more than wheat; that cassava-meal (*farine manioc*) yields per acre six times more nutritive matter than wheat; that the banja-yam is more nutritious, bulk for bulk, than the potato; and when one at the same time reflects that the plantain can be grown practically over the whole island; that the cultivation of the cassava is simple and inexpensive, and the returns very large; that the bread-fruit literally covers the land; that Indian corn will give three crops a year; that the banja-yam grows in wild abundance in our woods, conviction will be compelled that our claim for the capacity of St. Lucia to support a large population solely with her own products is something more than mere boasting."

Health and Vital Statistics.

18. The health of the Colony was good throughout the year, the death rate being 20·4 per 1000. In 1893 the death-rate was 24·2, a rate slightly in excess of the average for the preceding six years. The birth-rate was 45·2 per 1000. The estimated population at the end of the year was 45,095, showing an increase of 895 during the year. The percentage of legitimate and illegitimate births during the last five years have been as follows:—

—	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.
Legitimate - -	34·86	38·10	40·91	39·24	40·71
Illegitimate - -	65·14	61·90	59·09	60·76	59·24

Of 2,649 patients treated in hospital 27·1 per cent. were cases of malarial fever of the mild type of previous years, although the percentage of deaths, 2·23, was larger than in the two preceding years.

The Yaws Hospital was repaired during the year and 67 cases were treated. Of this number, 45 were discharged cured, and two died.

Immigration.

19. No new Immigrants were introduced from the East Indies during 1894, and in the month of September 450 immigrants, equivalent to 410 statute adults, were repatriated. The repatriated immigrants lodged in the treasury, for transmission through the usual channel to India, the sum of 2,989*l.*, and the protector reported that the women were more than usually ornamented with jewellery. The time-expired immigrants entitled to return passages during the year amounted to 889, but 317 accepted the usual bounty in substitution of a return passage; 36 remained in the Colony, but have not yet claimed bounty; the remainder, viz., 112, were the children of those who accepted bounty. At the close of the year there were in the Colony 708 indentured immigrants.

Education.

20. The work of primary instruction was carried on by 35 schools with 4,239 children on the registers and an average attendance of 2,607. The number of children on the registers represents, therefore, 9·4 of the population. The Government contribution to primary schools amounted to 2,572*l.*, or a little over 19*s.* 8*d.* per head of the children in average attendance. In the way of higher instruction, Government contributed 200*l.* in aid of St. Mary's College or Castries Grammar School.

Shipping.

21. The number and tonnage of vessels entered and cleared in 1894 was as follows:—

	Entered.		Cleared.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
Steamers - - -	386	467,445	386	467,445
Sailing Vessels - -	247	22,473	252	24,431
Total - -	633	489,918	638	491,876

Of the 386 steamers entered and cleared 325 were British, 27 French and 19 Belgian. The amount of bunker-coal shipped may be taken as some indication of the extent to which the Port of Castries is used as a coaling station. In 1894 the shipment was 39,764 tons; in 1893 it was 37,580 tons.

Meteorology.

22. The total rainfall reported for the year amounted to 81·55 inches, less by 32 inches than the rainfall for 1893, notwithstanding that in the month of October 21·09 inches were recorded. In October there was a strong gale, accompanied by a very heavy downfall of rain, which caused destructive floods in several parts of the Colony.

Imports and Exports.

23. The value and direction of the trade of the Colony for the last five years are shown in the annexed table :—

Imports.

Year.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.	Totals.
	£	£	£	£
1890 - - -	129,683	24,555	52,455	206,693
1891 - - -	138,019	24,867	59,292	222,178
1892 - - -	103,859	30,360	38,806	173,025
1893 - - -	86,838	26,602	55,538	168,978
1894 - - -	93,780	31,933	61,425	187,138 *

* Exclusive of Wrecks (404*l.*).

Exports (Including Specie).

Year.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.	Totals.
	£	£	£	£
1890 - - -	61,087	6,071	74,600	141,758 †
1891 - - -	37,177	6,151	87,056	130,384 †
1892 - - -	44,757	7,153	84,446	136,356 †
1893 - - -	55,217	5,212	118,001	178,430 †
1894 - - -	43,062	11,297	91,535	145,894 †

† Exclusive of value of Bunker Coal supplied to shipping.

The value of Imports for the year was 187,542*l.*, exceeding the value of the Imports for 1893 by 18,564*l.* The average value of the Imports for the five years 1890 to 1894 was 191,602*l.*

WINDWARD ISLANDS. 1894.

To the value of Imports from British Colonies, amounting to 31,933*l.*, Barbados contributed 24,439*l.*, a little over three-fourths; Canada contributing 3,447*l.*; Saint Vincent 1,661*l.*; Jamaica 1,036*l.*

To the value of Imports from Foreign Countries, amounting to 61,425*l.*, the United States of America contributed 41,789*l.*; France 11,491*l.*; the Spanish West Indies 3,272*l.*; the French West Indies 1,982*l.*; Germany 1,600*l.*

Of Exports to British Colonies of the total value of 8,272*l.*, exclusive of specie, Canada took goods to the value of 5,365*l.*; Barbados to the value of 2,352*l.* The value of Exports to Canada more than doubled the value of the preceding year.

Of Exports to Foreign Countries of the total value of 91,535*l.*, France took goods to the value of 48,629*l.*; the United States to the value of 35,991*l.*

The following table gives a comparative statement of the value of the exports of the four principal staples of the Colony in 1894 and 1893, together with the average for ten preceding years:—

	1894.	1893.	Average 1883 to 1892.
Sugar:—	£	£	£
Usine	53,678	76,106	50,929
Muscovado	12,483	14,463	42,784
Molasses	3,722	4,756	5,947
Cocoa	28,512	38,910	19,671
Logwood	37,359	37,752	5,022
	135,754	171,987	124,353

The quantities exported in 1893 and 1894 were as follow:—

Year.	Usine.	Muscovado.	Molasses.	Cocoa.	Logwood.
	lbs.	lbs.	Gallons.	lbs.	Tons.
1893	8,011,200	1,928,400	253,680	1,037,300	6,292
1894	7,668,400	2,377,800	223,320	983,200	7,116

The aggregate export of sugar (Usine and Muscovado) in 1894 was 10,046,200 lbs.; in 1893 it was 9,939,600 lbs. It is evident that the serious decrease of the value of the staple products exported in 1894 was the result of falling prices and not of diminished production.

General.

24. In truth the great concern of the year in St. Lucia, as throughout the West Indies, was the depreciation of agricultural products, and especially sugar. The statistics recently published in several colonies prove conclusively that for some time the selling price of sugar has been generally below the cost of production. The continuance of such a state of things has, of course, only been possible owing to the system of subsidies adopted by foreign Governments, which guarantees the producer a margin of profit though selling below the cost of production. Independently of falling prices, the season of 1894 was not favourable to agriculture. A long period of drought was succeeded by a gale and disastrous floods in October, and although the consequences of these accidents do not fall within the range of the present report, they should not be lost sight of in reviewing the circumstances of 1894 in relation to their probable effect on the circumstances of 1895.

The effects of the drought, which was widespread throughout the West Indies, have been generally felt in a reduction of the yield of the sugar-cane. To what extent the reduction of the yield of the recently completed crop in St. Lucia may be assignable to the drought or to the subsequent flood respectively it may not be easy to determine. The measures which have been proposed to aid the agricultural industry of St. Lucia, in the peril of its existence, are still under consideration and need not be discussed in this Report.

From a Revenue point of view, the year 1894 was a good year. To whatever extent the general circulation of money may have been affected by the depreciation of staple products, the loss was largely made good by expenditure on Military Works and a comparatively large expenditure on Public Works by the Civil Government. Business connected with the growing activity of St. Lucia as a coaling station has also placed a good deal of money in circulation among the labouring population. The very considerable increase in Savings Bank deposits during the year seems to confirm this view of the case.

ST. VINCENT.

Revenue and Expenditure.

25. The Revenue of the year 1894 amounted to 28,574*l.*, and the Expenditure to 30,976*l.* The Revenue and Expenditure of the year 1893 and the average of the five years 1888 to 1892 were as follows :—

	1893.	Average 1888 to 1892.
	£	£
Revenue	27,914	26,972
Expenditure	29,439	25,857

The Revenue fell short of the Expenditure by 2,402*l.*; but exceeded the Revenue of 1893 by 660*l.* There was a marked increase from Import Duties, chiefly from Flour, although the total value of Imports decreased.

The Expenditure exceeded that of 1893 by 1,537*l.* It included a sum of 772*l.*, expended on the reconstruction of stills for the protection of the Revenue, a part of which is recoverable.

Public Debt.

26. The Public Debt at the close of the year amounted to 19,380*l.*, having been increased since the 31st of December, 1893, by the following loans:—

	£
Kingston water supply	1,000
Town of Kingston	1,500
Telephones	2,200
	£4,700

The two first loans were raised to provide for the refund of advances made from the general revenue of the Colony; the last

for an extension of the telephone system. The Public Debt represented an indebtedness of a little over two-thirds of the revenue of the year, and of about 8*s.* 9*d.* per head of the population.

Public Works.

27. No public work of any importance was undertaken, except the reconstruction of stills already alluded to.

Legislation.

28. In connection with the reconstruction of stills, an Ordinance was passed to consolidate and amend the Excise Law. At the close of the year an ordinance was passed to repeal the provisions of the Sugar Duty Ordinance, 1892, by which an additional export duty of 3*s.* 8*d.* on the large hogshead was imposed to recoup the General Revenue for the loss incurred to meet the requirements of the McKinley Tariff Treaty arrangements; those arrangements have ceased to exist.

Health and Vital Statistics.

29. The health of the Colony was good throughout the year, the death-rate being 20·9 per 1,000. In 1893 the death-rate was 26·2, but this represented an excess over the normal rate caused by an epidemic of bilious remittent fever in the Grenadines. The birth-rate was 46·4. The estimated population at the end of the year was computed to be 44,000, showing an increase of 700 during the year.

Crown Lands.

30. The allotment of Crown Lands in small areas, under recent regulations, has been steadily proceeded with. These Regulations provide for the sale of blocks of not less than 5 acres (and as a rule not more than 20 acres are included in one allotment), subject to the condition, under penalty of forfeiture, that in three years not less than half of the area must be planted in cocoa, nutmegs, coffee or some other economic cultivation. The price at present charged is 2*l.* per acre, payable in five annual instalments, or 30*s.* per acre if paid in full on taking possession. I am informed that since 1891 between 2,000 and 2,500 acres have been allotted, and that some 75 per cent. of the allotments are believed to be in cultivation.

Imports and Exports.

31. The total value of imports during 1894 was 91,009*l.*, or 2,415*l.* less than in 1893. The Imports from the United Kingdom and British Colonies have fallen off, while there has been an increase of imports from Foreign Countries and, in particular, from the United States.

The value of exports has enormously decreased. In 1893 the value of exports amounted to 114,694*l.*, in 1894 a total value of 87,374*l.* shows a decrease of 27,320*l.*

The following table gives the quantities and values of the principal exports in 1893 and 1894 :—

	1894.		1893.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£
Arrowroot - Brls.	29,119	38,278	22,310	50,807
Sugar - - Hhds.	3,135	27,270	3,619	43,705
Rum - - Puns.	275	2,200	212	1,694
Cocoa - - Lbs.	174,519	3,272	130,854	3,271
Vegetables and Fruit (plantain) - -	—	2,965	—	2,445
Spices - - -	—	878	—	1,223

The table shows clearly that, although there is a decrease in the production of sugar, the great falling-off in the value of exports is due to low prices.

I annex a table prepared by Administrator Mr. Thompson at my request, showing the quantities and values of the principal exports for the year 1894 and for the quinquennial period from 1880. It gives the following total values of exports:—

	£
1880 - - - - -	158,946
1885 - - - - -	130,341
1890 - - - - -	104,744
1894 - - - - -	87,374

Table of Principal Exports in the year 1880, 1885, 1890 *and* 1894.

	1880.			1885.			1890.			1894.		
	Quantity.	Value.	Average Price.	Qua tity.	Value.	Average Price.	Quantity.	Value.	Average. Price.	Quantity.	Value.	Average. Price.
		£			£			£			£	
Arrowroot	14,599 brls.	21,987	1*l.* 10*s.* p. brl.	19,702 brls.	34,967	1*l.*15*s.*6*d.*p.brl.	20,872 brls.	31,270	1*l.* 10*s.* p. brl.	29,119 brls.	38,278	1*l.* 6*s.* p. brl.
Molasses	1,804 puns.	7,362	4*l.* per pun.	1,533 puns.	3,631	2*l.* 5*s.* p. pun.	1,790 puns.	5,853	3*l.* 5*s.* p. pun.	405 puns.	1,012	2*l.* 10*s.* p. pun.
Rum	1,060½ puns.	10,605	10*l.* per pun.	1,774 puns.	8,167	4*l.* 12*s.* p. pun.	550 puns.	4,406	8*l.* p. pun.	275 puns.	2,200	8*l.* per pun.
Sugar	9,168 hhds.	110 636	12*l.* per hhd.	8,124 hhds.	74,543	9*l.* 3*s.* p. hhd.	6,290 hhd.	53,062	8*l.* 8*s.* p. hhd.	3,135 hhds.	27,270	8*l.* 14*s.* p. hhd.
Cocoa	35,868 lbs.	640	4·28*d.* per lb.	57,456 lbs.	955	4*d.* per lb.	102,771 lbs.	1,835	4·28*d.* per lb.	174,519 lbs.	3,272	4·5*d.* per lb.
Cotton	23,520 lbs.	490	5*d.* per lb.	35,040 lbs.	584	4*d.* per lb.	25,218 lbs.	420	4*d.* per lb.	28,308 lbs.	530	4·6*d.* per lb.
Vegetables and fruits	—	106	—	—	240	—	—	1,195	—	—	2,965	—
Whale-oil	462 brls.	586	1*l.* 5*s.* per brl.	484 brls.	534	1*l.* 2*s.* per brl.	587 brls.	587	1*l.* per brl.	473 brls.	473	1*l.* per brl.
Spices	—	—	—	—	523	—	—	433	—	—	1,223	—
Pigeon-peas	—	—	—	—	—	—	514 brls.	514	—	269 brls.	336	—
Total Exports:—												
Foreign produce	—	4,429	—	—	1,755	—	—	1,133	—	—	950	—
Local produce	—	154,517	—	—	128,586	—	—	103,611	—	—	86,424	—
Total	—	158.946	—	—	130,341	—	—	104,744	—	—	87,374	—

Meteorology.

32. The rainfall at the Botanic Garden Station was 91 inches, being 21 inches lower than any record during the last five years.

General.

33. In common with other West Indian Colonies, St. Vincent has suffered severely from the falling prices of its staple products. What I have said on the subject of sugar in my Report on St. Lucia, applies with equal force to St. Vincent and, indeed, I can find no better illustration of the position than the circumstance that the principal proprietor in St. Vincent assured me that his loss in working his estates during the year 1894 amounted to over 6,000*l.* St. Vincent has indeed suffered more seriously than many other Colonies, owing to the absence of such improved machinery as has elsewhere materially reduced the cost of production. In 1893 the sugar-cane was in some districts severely attacked by the disease *Trichosphœria Sacchari*. The curator of the Botanic Garden is of opinion that, however seriously the drought may have affected the yield of the sugar cane, it has kept down this disease.

The bounty system is not responsible for the fall in the price of arrowroot, the cultivation of which has very largely increased in St. Vincent. Presumably the great fall in the value of inferior qualities is due to a general improvement in the method of cultivation and preparation adopted in other countries; the result being a very large production, or perhaps over production, of arrowroot of superior quality. It is, therefore, satisfactory to be able to report that an important improvement has been effected in the preparation of arrowroot by the introduction of a self-emptying washing machine. It is said to work admirably and to lessen materially the cost of preparation.

Steady progress continues to be made in extending and improving the cultivation of cocoa, coffee, fruits and vegetables (sweet potatoes, yams, tannias, &c.,) spices, kola and other agricultural products in substitution of, or at least in supplement of, sugar. With reference to coffee, Mr. Powell, the Curator of the Botanic Garden, has frequently pointed out the suitability of the mountain lands of the Island for Arabian, and of the rich, moist low lands for Liberian, coffee, and he reports that extraordinary planting operations in this direction have latterly been undertaken. At present coffee figures for a considerable sum in the imports, and in an agricultural Colony, where the whole community is more or less dependent on the soil, no commodity should appear on the import list which the soil and climate of St. Vincent are admirably adapted to produce.

The present condition of St. Vincent certainly demands prudence and economy, but I see no reason for discouragement as regards

the future prosperity of the Colony. In the late Sir Robert Hamilton's Report on Dominica, there is a passage which has seemed to me not inappropriate to St. Vincent, and I venture to repeat it. He says:—"There is no royal road to increasing the "wealth and prosperity of the island. This can only come from "an increased production in it of articles for which there is a "constant demand. A beginning in this direction is already "observable, and when once the corner has been fairly turned "the increase will go on at an accelerated pace. With an "increase of production the revenue will increase, and means will "become available for improving and extending the means of "communication throughout the Island. The people are not "wanting in energy and resource, and they will have to exercise "both, in the present condition of the Island, in getting their "produce to market."

I have, &c.
CHAS. BRUCE.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 137.

ZULULAND.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1894.

(For Report for 1893, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 115.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty,
May 1895.

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1895.

[C.—7629.-20.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions, have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
104	Victoria	1892
105	Bermuda	1893
106	Gambia	,,
107	Hong Kong	,,
108	St. Vincent	,,
109	Gibraltar	,,
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111	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
112	Leeward Islands	,,
113	Barbados	,,
114	Malta	,,
115	Zululand	,,
116	British Honduras	,,
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123	Basutoland	1893–94
124	St. Lucia	1893
125	St. Helena	,,
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130	British Bechuanaland	1893–94
131	British New Guinea	1892–3 & 1893–4
132	Lagos	1893
133	British Guiana	1893–94
134	Jamaica	,,
135	Newfoundland	1893
136	Gold Coast	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.

No. 137.

ZULULAND.

[For Report for 1893 *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 115.]

Sir W. F. HELY-HUTCHINSON to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House, Pietermaritzburg,
MY LORD, Natal, April 2, 1895.

I FORWARD the Blue Book for Zululand for 1894, with a report thereon by the Resident Commissioner, Sir Marshal Clarke.

2. Referring to the section on population, Sir Marshal Clarke informs me that of the 12,500 square miles which Zululand is estimated to contain, 3,200 square miles, a little more than 25 per cent., is uninhabited. The probability is that a large part of the uninhabited area is uninhabitable on account of fever and the cattle and horse disease known as "Nagana." The Native population, estimated at 165,121, averages about 17·75 to the square mile of inhabited country.

3. With regard to the locusts, I learn that they appear to have done considerable damage this year in the neighbourhood of Melmoth, but that the gardens between Eshowe and the Tugela are, so far, doing well. The Natal Ministry are considering what steps should be taken with a view of minimising the ravages of the locusts: and it is my intention to work in accord with them, in Zululand, if possible.

4. In forwarding this report, I desire to bear my testimony to the ability, tact, and judgment with which Sir Marshal Clarke performs the duties of Resident Commissioner in Zululand: and to his thorough knowledge and sympathetic understanding of the native character, which so eminently qualify him for the responsible position he holds.

I have, &c.
WALTER HELY-HUTCHINSON,
Governor.

RESIDENT COMMISSIONER to GOVERNOR.

SIR, Eshowe, Zululand, March 25, 1895.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, herewith the annual Blue Book relating to Zululand, for the year 1894, filled up as far as it

has been possible to do so, together with my report thereon, as required by the Colonial Regulation, No. 271.

I have, &c.

M. CLARKE,

Resident Commissioner.

His Excellency
the Hon. Sir W. F. Hely-Hutchinson, K.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT by the RESIDENT COMMISSIONER on the BLUE BOOK for the year 1894.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The Revenue in 1894, amounted to 45,592*l.* as compared with 43,666*l.* in the previous year, increases being shown in the returns as follows :—

	£
Hut-tax - - - -	518
Post and Telegraph- - - -	839
Land Revenue - - - -	571

The chief source of Revenue is Hut-tax, which continues to be paid with punctuality: each year large numbers of Natives leave Zululand seeking work in neighbouring States to acquire the means of paying their taxes.

The increase in Post and Telegraph is principally due to the sale of stamps. 1,380*l.* was collected under this head: of this, 530*l.* approximately was received from stamp collectors.

The increase in Land Revenue is due to the large number of prospectors' licenses issued during the year.

The Expenditure was 43,923*l.*, being 5,069*l.* in excess of that in 1893, and 1,669*l.*, short of the revenue received during year. The items under which the principal increases will be seen are :—

	£
Resident Commissioner's Establishment -	903
Education - - - - -	481
Pensions - - - - -	744
Public Works - - - -	4,254

The several returns which have been furnished from the Treasury show the sound condition of the finances of the Territory.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The total assets on the 31st December, 1894, exceeded the liabilities of the Territory on that date by 39,037*l.* 16*s.* 1*d.*

A sum of 19,500*l.* remained invested by the Crown Agents in Colonial and other securities, and the interest on these investments amounted to 624*l.* 10*s.* 4*d.*

Additional surplus funds, being available, were temporarily deposited in the local bank, and yielded 100*l.* in interest during the year.

Public Works.

Deviations in the main roads between Tugela and Eshowe and Melmoth have been made during the past year. In the latter section a saving of distance of 17 miles has thus been effected.

Ferry-boats have been placed on the Matikulu, the Umhlatuzi, and the White Umfolozi rivers at the main crossings. These were much called for, as, during the wet season such as occurred last year, rivers were impassable for days at a time, and both traffic and mail service interrupted.

Legislation.

Twelve proclamations were issued during the year, the most important of which were:—

(*a.*) For the regulation and management of gaols.
(*b.*) For the extension of jurisdiction of native chiefs in civil and criminal matters.
(*c.*) For the regulation of mining.
(*d.*) For the establishment of a money-order convention with the Colony of Natal.
(*e.*) For the preservation of timber and forests.

Population and Vital Statistics.

The European population in 1894 was 994, as compared with 857 in the previous year. The only means of arriving at an estimate of the Native population is by a calculation on the amount of hut-tax collected, a method which must be misleading. As a basis for the purpose of this calculation, the magistrates were instructed to reckon at the uniform rate of $3\frac{1}{36}$ souls, or $1\frac{1}{27}$ males and $1\frac{9}{108}$ females per hut. The last census was calculated on the basis of these figures, after a systematic enquiry as to the average number of occupants and the proportion of males and females in each hut.

The total population of the territory is estimated at 13·30 to the square mile, but, owing to the prevalence of malarial fever, a large section of Zululand is uninhabited. A number of kraal sites were abandoned in consequence of the exceptional severity of fever in 1893, and of the heavy losses in cattle sustained at the same time from Nagana and other diseases.

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Small-pox.

Several outbreaks of small-pox occurred in the Eshowe, Nkandhla, and Nqutu districts.

The total number of natives who suffered from this epidemic was about 1,149. There were 41 deaths reported, and over 30,000 persons were vaccinated, at a total cost to the Government of 599*l.* 4*s.* 8*d.* Some of the missionaries vaccinated numbers of Zulus free of charge, and otherwise rendered valuable assistance towards checking the spread of the disease. All the kraals in which small-pox made its appearance were isolated, and the quarantine arrangements were successfully carried out from time to time by native guards in co-operation with the tribal Chiefs.

The disease was completely stamped out towards the end of the year.

So long as small-pox exists in Johannesburg in the South African Republic, outbreaks may be expected to occur in Zululand, which is one of the chief sources of its native labour supply.

EDUCATION.

The total expenditure on Education in 1894 amounted to 481*l.* 16*s.* 0*d.* At the commencement of the year the education offered to Europeans and natives was under the direction of the different churches and mission societies established in the country, and it seemed advisable, both for general reasons and considering the amount of money at the disposal of Government, to aid the work already in progress rather than to initiate a new system. Accordingly, the heads of the various missions were consulted, and a grant was made for each society that carried on educational work amongst the Zulus, in proportion to the number of pupils attending specified schools which appear to be conducted in such a manner as to justify Government in granting assistance. The proportion allotted to each school was then submitted by the heads of the missions for approval. In this way grants were made as follows:—

	£
English Church of South Africa, 18 schools -	220
Norwegian Missionary Society, four schools -	50
Church of Norway Mission (Established by Schreuder) Society, one school - -	18
Swedish Missionary Society, one school - -	8

There was but one school in Zululand available solely for European children during the year, *i.e.*, at Eshowe, under the direction of the Bishop of the Church of South Africa. This school is self-supporting, so far as the teaching is concerned, but

the accommodation is inadequate. A portion of the Education vote viz., 80*l.* 16*s.* 0*d.*, was spent in beginning a school-room, which will be completed shortly, at a cost of 300*l.* It is intended to lend this building, free of charge, to the Church, for the exclusive use of the school, on the condition that the school is subject to Government inspection, that the result of such inspection is satisfactory, and that such rules and regulations as may from time to time be issued by the Government in connection with Government-aided schools are complied with. It was intended to establish a school for European children at Melmoth, the centre of a large farming district, but there is a great difficulty in obtaining the services of duly qualified teachers for country schools in South Africa. Steps are being taken to get a teacher from England. There is also a small school at the Nondweni mining centre for which Government aid is now being asked. There are only two industrial schools in Zululand, both at Eshowe—one under the Norwegian Mission, where smith's work, carpentering, and waggon-making are taught, the other, a printing and book-binding establishment belonging to the Church of South Africa. Both of these schools are working satisfactorily and have received an aggregate grant from Government of 100*l.*

Agriculture.

The Zulus, a pastoral rather than an agricultural people, have been accustomed to cultivate little more than what has been necessary to meet their immediate wants, but of late heavy losses in cattle, and a growing appreciation of the value of money, have induced many of them to purchase ploughs or to hire others to plough for them. This has increased the area under cultivation.

Last year the grain crop in the Eshowe, Lower Umfolozi, Nkandla, and Nqutu districts was a comparative failure, and quantities of mealies were imported from Natal, the South African Republic, and Basutoland, the Zulus paying as much as 1*l.* or 1*l.* 10*s.* a bag.

The soil is generally suitable for cultivation, but beyond the coast-belt it is not exceptionally rich; the Zulus have often to break up fresh ground for their gardens, and the farmers in Proviso B. have to manure their lands before they can hope for satisfactory crops.

Locusts.

Large swarms of locusts passed over the whole, and settled in many parts, of Zululand during the months of November and December, doing much damage to standing crops. These pests are not known to have appeared in the country for nearly 30 years. It is reported that large swarms of young locusts are

growing up along the coast, and the magistrates have been instructed to encourage and to assist the natives by all the means in their power to destroy them.

Stock.

Heavy losses from horse-sickness were experienced during the year in the upper districts of the territory, where, up to this time, the disease was little known; this is attributed to the exceptionally heavy rainfall; at the same time, the low country, always unhealthy for horses, did not seem exceptionally affected.

The deaths reported of horned cattle, ascribed to the disease called Nagana, were not as numerous as the year before.

By favour of the military authorities, the services of Surgeon-Captain Bruce, A.M.D., an eminent bacteriologist, were obtained to investigate this disease and ascertain its affinity to the result ascribed to the bite of the Tsetse-fly. He was engaged on these investigations at the close of the year.

Garden Boundaries.

After the Zulu war the Chief Hlubi, a Basuto with a following, was settled in the Nqutu District.

The Zulus and Basutos are not good neighbours; the former cultivate fields about their kraals and feed their cattle beyond, the Basuto cultivate at a distance from their villages and herd their milch-cattle and plough oxen close by. Disputes as to trespass and damages to crops naturally arise from this diversity of system.

As Hlubi persisted in an unfounded claim to be paramount chief of the entire district, disputes and quarrels often occurred which threatened to lead to serious disturbances.

It was accordingly considered necessary to assign garden boundaries to the various chiefs.

This, so far, seems to work satisfactorily.

MINES.

Gold, the mineral which attracted most attention on the part of prospectors and capitalists in Zululand, occurs under three conditions:—

(1.) In quartz-veins and reefs, encased for the most part in highly tilted metamorphic schists striking always more or less east and west.

(2.) In banket-beds inter-strat'fied with sandstones and quartzites.

(3.) As an alluvial deposit.

The principal gold-fields are:—

Name.	Situation.	Formation.
1. Nondweni - -	Nqutu District - -	Quartz, reef and Banket.
2. Ulundi - - -	Entonjaneni District -	Banket.
3. Melmoth - - -	Entonjaneni District -	Quartz, reef and alluvial.
4. Upper Insuzi -	Nkandhla District - -	Banket.
5. Umhlatuzi -		Banket.
6. Vungwini - -		Quartz veins and alluvial.
7. Nkunzana - -		Quartz veins and alluvial.

1.

The Nondweni Gold-Fields are situated in the North-western portion of Zululand, know as the Nqutu district, on Crown Lands.

The maximum length of the fields is about nine miles, and the breadth about five miles.

At the close of the year there were 113 prospecting areas registered, representing approximately 12 square miles.

Besides a considerable extent of auriferous banket-beds, 30 gold-bearing quartz-reefs and leaders, running more or less parallel to one another, have been proved on these fields. The gold contained is free near the surface and maintains that characteristic in the deepest shaft yet sunk, 200 feet.

There is a deposit of graphite on the western side of the fields, but no work has yet been done to prove its extent or commercial value. Much desultory prospecting work has been carried on for some years, the total depth of shafts sunk amounting to about 5,500 feet, and the length of drives and cross-cuts to about 2,000 feet.

There are 21 syndicates and one limited company holding properties on these fields; the remainder of the occupied ground being held by individual prospectors and private capitalists.

Amongst the principal properties are:—

(a.)—*The Enterprise Mine.*

Three mining leases and a water-right have been granted to the Enterprise Gold Mining and Prospecting Syndicate, and a mill-site lease has been applied for. The average of free gold won over the plates was 7 dwts. 20·8 grains per ton of quartz crushed; the value of the retorted gold being 3*l*. 8*s*. 4*d*. per ounce.

The gross expenditure on the property up to the 31st December, 1894 is returned at 8,917*l*.

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(b.)—*Von Levetzou's Luck. (De Waal's Syndicate.)*

A quartz-reef runs through this property where a shaft has been sunk to a depth of about 50 feet, in which several pockets of exceptionally rich quartz have been found.

(c.)—*Sisters Gold Mining Company.*

On this property, which was originally pegged out in 72 claims, two principal gold-bearing deposits have been discovered and followed, one consisting of a species of stockwerke containing innumerable thin quartz veins, many of which carry visible gold, and the other of a small leader, very rich in free gold, in decomposed ground, down to a depth of about 120 feet.

Native labour is cheap and as a rule plentiful. The rate of wages ranges from 10*s.* to 30*s.* per month, exclusive of food, the average being about 25*s.* a month. European miners earn from 8*l.* to 16*l.* a month, out of which their board would cost them about 4*l.*

The climate of Nondweni, and all other gold-fields of Zululand, is exceptionally healthy. The various spruits and rivers will afford an ample supply of water for many large batteries. Coal is found in the neighbourhood of Nondweni, and suitable woods can be obtained from the forests 40 miles distant.

The White population numbers about 160 persons.

There are 131 prospecting license-holders, many of whom are not resident at Nondweni.

A passenger cart runs between Dundee, Natal, and Denny-Dalton, calling at Nondweni once a week.

The greater part of the work done has been confined to a form of surface-scratching which is inadequate for the proper proving and development of the reefs, the commercial value of which can only be ascertained and turned to account by serious development workings. In the two principal instances where development has been attempted, namely at the "Enterprise" and "Sisters," the results obtained have been of such an encouraging nature as to offer inducement to the introduction of capital on a larger scale.

These two properties have so far turned out over 3000*l.* worth of gold over the plates, without considering the value of the tailings.

II.—*Ulundi Fields.*

These fields are on the left bank of the White Umfolozi River a few miles north of the Ulundi battle-field.

The Denny Dalton Mine, which is attracting a good deal of attention, is situated on a farm on the opposite bank of this river in the South African Republic. The number of areas pegged on the Ulundi fields standing on the register on the 31st December was 70, representing about 8¼ square miles, but very little prospecting work, beyond the merest surface scratching, has as yet been done.

III.—*Melmoth Fields.*

Hareward Gold Mining Company.—The property of this company, in extent 606 acres, is situated about 7 miles from Melmoth. A good deal of irregular mining has been done since the property was taken over by the Hareward Syndicate in 1889. During the year October 1893 to October 1894, 495 feet of sinking, 302 feet of driving, and 9,150 square feet of stoping were executed. 352 tons of quartz were milled yielding 314 ozs, 12 dwts. of gold or an average of 17 dwts. 21 grs. of free gold per ton exclusive of tailings. The expenditure for the same period amounted to 988*l.* The total expenditure from 1889 to December 1894, is returned at 12,167*l.* 3*s.* 9*d.*

The property includes a creek where alluvial gold exists over a distance of some 2 miles.

IV.—*Upper Insuzi Valley.*

These fields which were only discovered in August, extend over an area of about 9 square miles.

The nature of the deposit consists of layers of micaceous sandstones, auriferous banket, fine conglomerates, grits, and indurated sandstone, occurring in a succession of separate series, each series being evidently of considerable thickness. Fifty-two prospecting areas, representing about 5¼ square miles, have been pegged off, 21 Europeans and about 80 natives being employed in prospecting. The result of the work done would go to prove the existence of a great number of parallel layers of auriferous banket, varying in thickness from 4 inches to 4 feet.

V.—*Umhlatuzi.*

On the upper reaches of this river, near the boundary line of the South African Republic, the same banket formation as that described as existing in the Upper Insuzi Valley is found. Three prospecting areas have been pegged off at these fields on private lands, and nine on crown lands.

COALS.

The coal-measures in Zululand are mostly found in mountain ranges. Up to the present, the only seams which have been in any way opened up are:—

(1.)—*In the Nqutu Range, Nqutu District.*

A seam, varying in thickness from 2 to 3 feet at its outcrop, has been found to extend over a considerable area. It is probable that a good anthracite steam-coal will be found when further drives have been made into the hillside containing this seam.

(2.)—*Qudeni Range, Nkandhla District.*

In one place here a coal seam, averaging a little over 1 foot in thickness, comes to the surface near the top of the range. Some

distance south of this point, what would apparently be the same seam again outcrops on the slopes of the Qudeni range, which are covered by a vast forest. The coal formation here constitutes the whole upper portion of this range of mountains, covering a considerable extent of country. This is a good anthracite steam coal.

(3.)—*St. Lucia Coal Fields, Hlabisa District.*

Large deposits of anthracite coal are said to exist near St. Lucia Bay, 60 miles north-east of Eshowe, and 160 miles from the port of Durban, Natal.

Four bore-holes and two shafts have been sunk on the deposit.

No. 1 bore (near the outcrop) passed through 20 feet of sandstone and then through 24 feet of coal.

No. 11 bore (on the dip) after passing through 124 feet of sandstone and shale encountered the coal seam which it traversed for 50 feet, a thin deposit of fire-clay lying immediately above the seam.

A lease of 4,000 acres was applied for on 8th April 1893, but has not yet been granted by the Government.

HOSPITALS.

Dispensaries have been established at Eshowe and at Ndwandwe, where the district surgeon gives advice free to Natives. A fee of 1*s.* is charged to cover the cost of medicines prescribed. These have been open since 13th February 1894, at Eshowe, and since 1st April 1894, at Ndwandwe. The number of attendances has been 441 and 283, at the two places respectively.

POST AND TELEGRAPH.

A daily post-cart service, for the conveyance of mails and passengers between Bond's Drift on the Natal border and Eshowe, was opened on the 1st December, a contract being concluded for the term of three years on a subsidy from the Government at the rate of 650*l.* per annum. Whilst securing an improvement in postal communication, the establishment of this service greatly facilitates travelling on the main road to and from Natal.

Eshowe, Zululand,
March 21, 1895.

MARSHAL CLARKE,
Resident Commissioner.